



1886

PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

GRAND CHAPTER

—OF—

Royal Arch Masons

OF CANADA.

—AT ITS—

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

—HELD IN THE—



Masonic Hall, Sandwich Street,
Town of Windsor.

Friday, July 16th, A. D. 1886.
A. I. 2416, A. L. 5886.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL CHAPTERS AND PRESERVED.

ADDRESS—THOMAS SARGANT, TORONTO, ONT., GRAND Z.

DAVID McLELLAN, HAMILTON, ONT., GRAND SCRIBE E.

A. McPHERSON, PRINTER, 51 JAMES STREET NORTH, HAMILTON, ONT.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

PROCEEDINGS.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, Sandwich Street, Town of Windsor, on Friday, the 16th day of July, A. D. 1886, A. I. 2416.

GRAND OFFICERS PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	THOMAS SARGANT,	Grand Z. }	Grand Council on the Throne
R. " "	Robert Hendry, jr.,	" H. }	
R. " "	R. B. Hungerford,	" J. }	
R. " "	David McLellan,	Grand Scribe E.	
" "	J. D. Christie, as	" " N.	
R. " "	Peter A. Craig,	" Prin Soj.	
R. " "	Edward Mitchell,	" Treasurer.	
R. " "	John E. Harding,	" Registrar.	
V. " "	John A. Wills,	" 1st Asst. Soj.	
" "	George Chrystal, as	" 2nd " "	
V. " "	I. Baker,	" Sword Bearer	
" "	Wm. Carey, as	" M. of Veils	
" "	John McCallum, as	" Stan'd Bearer.	
R. " "	Wm. Forbes, as	" Dir. of Cer.	
" "	J. M. Dunn, as	" Organist.	
V. " "	Francis Dalby,	" Pursuivant.	
V. " "	Benjamin Freer,	" Steward.	
V. " "	Robert M. Stuart,	" "	
" "	John Dewar, as	" "	
" "	H. C. Simpson, as	" "	
" "	Thos. Taylor Vesey,	" Janitor.	

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	David Trotter,	Petrolea,	London.	Dist.
" "	William Cowan,	Galt,	Wellington	"
" "	DeWitt H. Martyn,	Kincardine,	Huron	"
" "	Alex. Patterson,	Toronto,	Toronto	"
" "	J. B. Traves,	Port Hope,	Ontario	"
" "	Jas. Walters,	Napanee,	Pr. Edward	"
" "	Edwin Plant,	Ottawa,	Central	"

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto,	Past	G. Z.
"	"	Daniel Spry,	"	"
"	"	Donald Ross,	"	"
"	"	Henry Macpherson,	"	"
R. E.	"	Thos. C. MacNabb,	"	G. H.
"	"	Henry Robertson,	"	G. J.
"	"	A. G. Smyth,	"	G. Supt.
"	"	Wm. Carey,	"	"
"	"	Wm. G. Reid,	"	"
"	"	John Malloy,	"	"
"	"	William Forbes,	"	"
"	"	J. G. Burns,	"	"
"	"	James B. Nixon,	"	"
"	"	C. W. Brown,	"	"
"	"	J. Ross Robertson,	"	"
"	"	Isaac F. Toms,	"	"
"	"	J. H. Murney,	"	"
"	"	John Scoon,	"	"
"	"	I. P. Willson,	"	"
"	"	Richard Radcliffe,	"	G. P. Soj.
"	"	E. H. D. Hall,	"	G. Reg.
"	"	John Creasor,	"	"

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

M. E. Comp.	Fred. J. Menet,	from G. Chap. of	Minnesota.
"	"	Daniel Spry,	" " New Jersey.
"	"	"	" " Quebec.
"	"	Donald Ross,	" " Connecticut.
"	"	Hy. Macpherson	" " California.
"	"	Thos. Sargant,	" " Kentucky.
R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	"	" " Alabama.
"	"	T. C. MacNabb,	" " Delaware.
"	"	Henry Robertson,	" " Dist. of Col.
"	"	"	" " Mississippi.
"	"	"	" " New York.
"	"	David McLellan,	" " Georgia.
"	"	"	" " New Hamp.
"	"	Wm. Forbes,	" " Illinois.
"	"	Edward Mitchell,	" " Louisiana.
"	"	J. G. Burns,	" " Maryland.
"	"	J. Ross Robertson,	" " Nebraska.

"	"	J. J. Mason,	"	"	Nevada.
"	"	R. Hendry, jr.,	"	"	Nova Scotia.
"	"	J. B. Trayes,	"	"	Rhode Island.
"	"	J. B. Nixon,	"	"	Vermont.

PAST FIRST PRINCIPALS.

M.E. Comp.	Thomas Sargant,	R.E. Comp.	John Scoon,
"	" Fred. J. Menet,	"	" Thos. C. Macnabb,
"	" Daniel Spry,	"	" John Creasor,
"	" Donald Ross,	"	" DeWitt H. Martyn,
"	" Henry Macpherson,	"	" C. W. Brown,
R.E.	" David McLellan,	V.E.	" James D. Christie,
"	" John Malloy,	"	" T. L. M. Tipton,
"	" J. J. Mason,	"	" J. H. Widdifield,
"	" Alex. Patterson,	"	" S. S. Clutton,
"	" Robt. Hendry, jr.	"	" Francis Dalby,
"	" R. B. Hungerford	"	" F. B. Gregory,
"	" Otto Klotz,	"	" John M. Clement,
"	" Wm. Carey,	"	" Benjamin Freer,
"	" A. G. Smyth,	"	" Thos. McCarroll,
"	" Wm. G. Reid,	E.	" S. G. Fairtlough,
"	" Wm. Forbes,	"	" J. S. Dewar,
"	" E. Mitchell,	"	" J. J. Farley,
"	" J. G. Burns,	"	" I. Baker,
"	" J. B. Nixon,	"	" John Shupe,
"	" Henry Robertson,	"	" Luke Slater,
"	" Richard Radcliffe,	"	" John M. Dunn,
"	" Wm. Cowan,	"	" Wm. Millward,
"	" J. B. Trayes,	"	" R. Beasley,
"	" Jas. Walters,	"	" G. J. Bennett,
"	" David Trotter,	"	" C. W. Mulligan,
"	" Edwin Plant	"	" H. C. Simpson,
"	" I. P. Willson,	"	" John Henderson,
"	" Peter A. Craig,	"	" John Parry,
"	" J. Ross Robertson,	"	" A. S. Gurd,
"	" John E. Harding,	"	" W. E. Idsardi,
"	" Isaac F. Toms,	"	" Wm. S. Robinson,
"	" John H. Murney,	"	" Geo. Green,
"	" E. H. D. Hall,	"	" J. Kerr Brydon.

A constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their qualified officers, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was opened in **Ample Form** at 10.20 a. m.

R. E. Comp. W. G. Reid, from the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, reported that there were seventy-nine Chapters on the roll of Grand Chapter, of which number fifty-three were represented by the following Companions :

No. 1.	Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, Kingston.	
	R. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, jr,	P. Z.
	E. " S. G. Fairtlough	P. Z.
No. 2.	The Hiram Chapter, Hamilton.	
	E. Comp. C. W. Mulligan	Z.
	R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz	P. Z.
No. 3.	St. John's Chapter, London.	
	E. Comp. John S. Dewar	P. Z.
	" " Alex. McQueen	H.
No. 4.	St. Andrew and St. John, Toronto.	
	M. E. Comp. Fred J. Menet	P. Z.
No. 5.	St. George's Chapter, London.	
	E. Comp. A. B. Munson	H.
	" " A. Irvine	J.
	" " H. C. Simpson	P. Z.
	R. E. " Wm. Carey	P. Z.
	" " A. G. Smyth	P. Z.
No. 6.	" " R. B. Hungerford	P. Z.
	St. John's Chapter, Hamilton.	
	R. E. Comp. David McLellan	P. Z.
	" " Wm. G. Reid	P. Z.
	" " John Malloy	P. Z.
	" " Wm. Forbes	P. Z.
	" " J. J. Mason	P. Z.
	" " E. Mitchell	P. Z.
No. 7.	Moir Chapter, Belleville.	
	E. Comp. J. J. Farley	Z.
No. 8.	King Solomon's Chapter, Toronto.	
	E. Comp. R. L. Patterson	J.
	R. E. " Alex Patterson	P. Z.
	" " David McLellan	P. Z.
	" " J. G. Burns	P. Z.
	" " J. B. Nixon	P. Z.
	" " J. Ross Robertson	P. Z.
	M. E. " Thos. Sargent	P. Z.
	" " Fred. J. Menet	P. Z.
	" " Daniel Spry	P. Z.

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| No. 10. | New Brunswick Chapter, St. John, N. B. | |
| | R. E. Comp. David McLellan | P. Z. Proxy. |
| No. 16. | Carleton Chapter, Ottawa. | |
| | E. Comp. J. D. Wallace | Z. |
| | E. " David Taylor | H. |
| | R. F. " Edwin Plant | P. Z. |
| No. 19. | Mount Moriah Chapter, St. Catharines. | |
| | E. Comp. John Henderson | Z. |
| | V. E. " J. D. Christie | P. Z. |
| No. 24. | Tecumseh Chapter, Stratford. | |
| | R. E. Comp. John E. Harding | Z. |
| | E. " I. Baker | P. Z. |
| No. 27. | Manitou Chapter, Collingwood. | |
| | V. E. Comp. F. B. Gregory | P. Z. |
| | R. " " Henry Robertson | P. Z. |
| | M. " " Henry Macpherson | P. Z. |
| No. 28. | Pentalpha Chapter, Oshawa. | |
| | E. Comp. R. McCaw | Z. |
| No. 29. | McCallum Chapter, Dunnville. | |
| | E. Comp. John Parry | P. Z. |
| | V. E. " T. L. M. Tipton | P. Z. |
| No. 30. | Huron Chapter, Goderich. | |
| | R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms | Z. |
| | E. " Chas A. Humber | J. |
| | R. E. " R. Radcliffe | P. Z. |
| No. 31. | Prince Edward Chapter, Picton. | |
| | R. E. Comp. John H. Murney | Z. |
| | E. " W. P. Reynolds | J. |
| | M. E. " Donald Ross | P. Z. |
| No. 32. | Waterloo Chapter, Galt. | |
| | E. Comp. John Shupe | Z. |
| | R. E. " Wm. Cowan | P. Z. |
| No. 34. | Signet Chapter, Barrie. | |
| | M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry | P. Z. |
| No. 36. | Corinthian Chapter, Peterboro. | |
| | E. Comp. Benjamin Shortly | Z. |
| | E. " James Alexander | H. |
| | R. E. " E. H. D. Hall | P. Z. |
| No. 37. | Victoria Chapter, Port Hope. | |
| | R. E. Comp. J. B. Trayes | P. Z. |

No. 40.	Guelph Chapter, Guelph.	
	R. E. Comp. John Scoon	P. Z.
No. 44.	Mount Sinai Chapter, Napanee.	
	R. E. Comp. James Walters	P. Z.
	M. E. " Donald Ross	P. Z.
No. 47.	Wellington Chapter, Chatham.	
	R. E. Comp. Thos. C. MacNabb	P. Z.
No. 48.	St. John's Chapter, Cobourg.	
	R. E. Comp. J. B. Trayes	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 49.	Elora Chapter, Elora.	
	V. E. Comp. Francis Dalby	P. Z.
No. 52.	Prince Rupert's Chapter, Winnipeg.	
	R. E. Comp. David McLellan	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 53.	Bruce Chapter, Petrolea.	
	E. Comp. Robert Scott,	Z.
	E. " James Peat	P. J.
	E. " A. S. Gurd	P. Z.
	R. E. " David Trotter	P. Z.
No. 54.	Palestine Chapter, St. Thomas.	
	E. Comp. W. E. Idsardi	Z.
	E. " S. Dubber	J.
	E. " Luke Slater	P. Z.
No. 55.	Niagara Chapter, Niagara.	
	V. E. Comp. John M. Clement	P. Z.
No. 56.	Georgian Chapter, Owen Sound.	
	R. E. Comp. John Creasor	P. Z.
	M. E. " Henry Macpherson	P. Z.
No. 57.	King Hiram Chapter, Port Colborne.	
	V. E. Comp. T. L. M. Tipton	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 59.	Sussex Chapter, Brockville.	
	R. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, jr	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 60.	Doric Chapter, Newmarket.	
	E. Comp. A. Borngasser	Z.
	V. E. " J. H. Widdifield	P. Z.
No. 61.	Granite Chapter, Almonte	
	R. E. Comp. Edwin Plant	P. Z. Proxy.
No. 62.	York Chapter, Eglington.	
	R. E. Comp. Jas. B. Nixon	P. Z.
	M. E. " Thos Sargant	P. Z.
	" " Daniel Spry	P. Z.

- No. 63. Havelock Chapter, Kincardine.
V. E. Comp. Benjamin Freer Z.
R. E. " DeWitt H. Martyn P. Z.
" " Isaac F. Toms P. Z.
- No. 64. Willson Chapter, Welland.
E. Comp. J. M. Dunn H.
R. E. " I. P. Willson P. Z.
- No. 65. St. Paul's Chapter, Toronto.
E. Comp. W. S. Robinson P. Z.
R. E. " C. W. Brown P. Z.
M. E. " F. J. Menet P. Z.
- No. 69. Grimsby Chapter, Grimsby.
E. Comp. W. E. Millward P. Z.
R. E. " Wm. Forbes P. Z.
" " J. J. Mason P. Z.
" " Wm. G. Reid P. Z.
- No. 71. Prince of Wales Chapter, Amherstburg.
E. Comp. George Green Z.
- No. 76. Mount Nebo Chapter, Niagara Falls South.
E. Comp. Jas. Depew J.
- No. 77. Occident Chapter, Toronto.
E. Comp. A. G. Horwood Z.
R. E. " John A. Wills P. Z.
M. E. " Thos. Sargent P. Z.
" " Fred. J. Menet P. Z.
" " Daniel Spry P. Z.
- No. 79. Orient Chapter, Toronto.
E. Comp. Malcolm Gibbs H.
R. E. " J. B. Nixon P. Z.
" " John Ross Robertson P. Z.
M. E. " Thomas Sargent P. Z.
" " Fred J. Menet P. Z.
" " Daniel Spry P. Z.
- No. 80. Ark Chapter, Windsor.
R. E. Comp. Peter A. Craig Z.
E. " Thomas McGregor H.
E. " J. W. Barringer P. H.
E. " R. Beasley P. Z.
- No. 81. Aylmer Chapter, Aylmer
V. E. Comp. S. S. Clutton Z.

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| No. 82. | Shuniah Chapter, Port Arthur. | |
| | E. Comp. G. R. Thomson | J. |
| No. 83. | Ionic Chapter, Orangeville. | |
| | R. E. Comp. Wm. Cowan | P. Z. |
| | M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent | P. Z. |
| No. 84. | Lebanon Chapter, Wingham. | |
| | E. Comp. H. W. C. Meyer | P. J. |
| No. 85. | Exeter Chapter, Exeter. | |
| | R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms | P. Z. Proxy. |
| No. 86. | Macpherson Chapter, Meaford. | |
| | V. E. Comp. Thos. McCarroll | P. Z. |
| No. 87. | Wentworth Chapter, Dundas. | |
| | E. Comp. George Chrystal | P. H. |
| | E. " John Ireland | P. Z. |
| | R. E. " David McLellan | P. Z. |
| | " " J. J. Mason | P. Z. |
| | " " Wm. G. Reid | P. Z. |
| No. 88. | MacNabb Chapter, Dresden. | |
| | V. E. Comp. Robert M. Stuart | P. Z. |
| No. 90. | Golden Chapter, Rat Portage. | |
| | E. Comp. John Kerr Brydon | P. Z. |
| | M. E. " Daniel Spry | P. Z. |
| No. 91. | Antiquity Chapter, Parkdale. | |
| | E. Comp. G. G. Rowe | Z. |
| | E. " G. J. Bennett | P. Z. |
| | M. E. " Thos. Sargent | P. Z. |
| No. 92. | Spry Chapter, Alliston. | |
| | R. E. Comp. John E. Harding | P. Z. Proxy. |

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM G. REID, }
 DEWITT H. MARTYN. } *Committee.*

On motion of R. E. Comp. Wm. G. Reid, seconded by R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn, the report of the Committee on the Credentials of Representatives was received and adopted.

The M. E. Grand Z. granted permission for the admission of all Royal Arch Masons in good standing during the session of the Grand Chapter as visitors.

The Grand Scribe E. read the Rules and Regulations for the government of Grand Chapter during business. The Grand Scribe E. commenced to read the minutes of the pro-

ceedings of the Twenty-eighth Annual Convocation held in the city of Hamilton on the 10th day of July, A. D., 1885, A. I., 2415, when it was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That as the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, held on the 10th day of July, have been printed, and copies thereof sent to all Chapters under this jurisdiction, the recorded minutes thereof be considered as read, and the same be now confirmed.

The M. E. the Grand Z. then read the following

ADDRESS :

To the Most Excellent the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada—GREETING:

COMPANIONS,—

Time with its evolutions has brought us to the Twenty-ninth Convocation of this Grand Chapter, another year is past, with its pleasure and pain, its joys and sorrows, its successes and adversities, its work for the Master in the vineyard here below, yet let me hope that in that work we have had before us the great aim of mankind, viz., the upholding and upbuilding of our fellowmen, the assisting and counselling of our Companions who have come to us burdened with their griefs and troubles, and at this the close of another Masonic year may we be able to say that in every action and word we have been prompted by the teachings of those lessons which are inculcated in every degree in our beautiful and exulting rite.

I welcome you here to-day with gratitude to our Divine Master that we are again permitted to see each other face to face, and enjoy the reunion of friendship, and take counsel together for the benefit of the Order. Although it is with pain, I have to notice the absence of some who for years were constant in their attendance at our convocations, but to whom we trust has been said, "Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

I now take pleasure in presenting to you a report of my acts in my official capacity as Grand Z. to which you were kind enough to elect me last year, and which actions I trust will meet with your unqualified approval.

Whilst I cannot congratulate you upon large additions to our membership, yet I am pleased to state that there is a

marked improvement in some localities, and I trust a feeling of determination to give an impetus to those degrees which to me are the finest in Freemasonry.

The reports of the Grand Superintendents will be laid before you, and I must say that the tone of some of them are not as encouraging as I would desire, but trust that during the coming year some means, such as Chapters of Instruction may be adopted in every district, thereby enabling the Companions to thoroughly understand the proper working of the degrees and giving greater zest and interest in every Chapter in the jurisdiction.

NEW CHAPTER.

An application was received from a number of duly registered Royal Arch Masons residing in Lindsay praying for a dispensation to organize a Chapter to be called Midland. While I am not in favor of increasing the number of Chapters in this jurisdiction unless under very unexceptionable circumstances, having carefully considered this application, and from the very earnest recommendation received from the Grand Superintendent of the Ontario District, R. E. Comp. J. B. Traves, and at the same time knowing the zeal of the E. Comp. nominated as the 1st Principal, Comp. Wallace, I acceded to their wishes and granted the dispensation.

I also received an application for a dispensation to authorize a Chapter to be opened at Melbourne, Colony of Victoria, Australia, which owing to its importance, I considered desirable to lay before you for decision.

DISPENSATIONS.

During the year a number of dispensations have been applied for, to all of which but two exceptions I have given my consent. Those which were granted are as follows :

To install as Z. not being H. but a P. M.	3
To " as " being H. but not a P. M.	3
To " as H. not being J. but a P. M.	4
To elect officers at a meeting other than the regular one as provided in by-laws	5
To install officers at a meeting other than the regular one,	2
To confer the degrees upon a serving Companion of Mount Horeb Chapter No. 20, Brantford,	1

Those refused were :

1st. St. Paul's Chapter No. 65, to install a P. H. as Z. he

not being a P. M. Knowing that there were in this Chapter Companions eligible and able to fill the responsible office of Z. I refused to grant the request.

2nd. Palestine Chapter, No. 54. St. Thomas, asked for a dispensation to install a Companion elected as Z, who had never filled any other office of importance in the Chapter. I also received petitions from the Companions of this Chapter both for and against the granting of said dispensation, and from the fact that the Grand Superintendent had requested me to enquire into the matter I visited this Chapter on the 19th December, 1885, and upon investigation into all the facts and counsel with the Companions who were present, I did not deem it in the interests of the Royal Craft to grant the dispensation.

Early in January I received a communication from the Companions of Ancient Frontenac Chapter No. 1, and Catarqui No. 12, Kingston, stating that they were desirous of amalgamating these two Chapters, but that they were anxious to retain both the names and the old warrants, and enquiring of me if I could grant them a dispensation to meet their views. I carefully considered the matter and gave them the following permission, viz., That the name of the Chapter should be Ancient Frontenac and Catarqui Chapter No. 1, G. R. C., under which the Chapter is to work, and that they might retain both warrants after having had a copy of the resolution, which had been unanimously adopted by both Chapters, endorsed upon said warrants by the Grand Scribe E., and the warrant of Catarqui Chapter being cancelled on the roll.

I am pleased to say that the amalgamation has been happily effected. The Companions in Kingston are to be congratulated in having so sensibly adopted a plan which to my mind could be carried out with equally good results in other localities where the Chapters are in a languishing condition. Such a course would be the means of combining the energy and talent of a number of Companions, thereby making one good earnest and energetic Chapter in place of two or more weakly ones, which would reflect credit upon themselves and our whole institution.

I have also given permission to the following Chapters to change their name :

Seaforth Chapter, No. 66, Clinton, to that of The Malloch.
 Parkdale " " 91, Parkdale, " " Antiquity.

REPRESENTATIVES.

The Grand Chapter having duly recognized the Grand Chapters of Dakota and Washington Territory, the Grand High Priest of these respective Chapters requested me to recommend a Companion as their representative in this jurisdiction. I therefore nominated the following: R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, for Dakota; Comp. Hugh Murray for Washington Territory, which I am happy to state have been confirmed. And as these Companions are present with us, and will present their credentials, I trust you will accord to them that welcome which will show to our sister Grand Chapters that these courtesies are appreciated by us.

During the year I have nominated as our representatives at the respective Grand Chapters the following Companions whose appointments have been confirmed:

Dakota	.	.	.	M. E. Comp. Wm. Blatt.
Georgia	.	.	.	M. E. Comp. W. A. Graham.
Illinois	.	.	.	E. Comp. Archibald McLellan.
Kansas	.	.	.	M. E. Comp. Jacob DeWitt.
Washington Territory	.	.	.	M. E. Comp. A. McCully.
New York	.	.	.	E. Comp. Horace G. Hopkins.

This last to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Comp. John S. Bowen, our former representative.

trust these appointments will meet with your approval.

FINANCES.

The receipts for the past year have been \$1879.19, which with the cash balance after the investments authorized to be made makes the amount \$3032.20, and the expenditure \$1826.50, leaving a cash balance in Bank of Commerce of \$1205.70.

During the year the Dominion Government redeemed the stock which was held by Grand Chapter and the amount was invested in the Western Canada Permanent Building Society's bonds bearing 5% interest. The \$3,000 authorized by Grand Chapter to be invested by the Committee appointed at last Convocation have been placed by them (with my approval) in the Toronto General Trust Co. for five years bearing 5%.

Last March I received notification from the Land Security Co. in which we are stockholders of \$1500 paid up stock, that a new issue had been made at a premium of 25%, and our

allotment was ninety shares. These shares have been accepted on your behalf and it is for you to decide whether you will retain them or dispose of them at a premium. From the fact that they do not contemplate calling up more than 25% of the amount, making our payment \$450, it is just a question whether this is a feasible investment for Grand Chapter funds. I leave the matter in your hands. All these investments are made in the name of the Grand Z., Grand Treasurer and Grand Scribe E., and are represented as follows:

Western Canada Permanent Building Society, \$4500.00 bearing 5 per cent.	
Toronto General Trust	3000.00 " 5 "
Land Security Co., old stock,	1500.00 paying 10 "
" " " new issue,	90.00 " 10 "
	\$9090 00

In the financial Statement of the Grand Treasurer he has always placed the Land Security Co. Stock at par though it is worth in the vicinity of 55% premium. The financial standing of the Grand Chapter is as follows :

Investments	\$9090.00
Cash in Bank.....	1205.70
	\$10,295.70

BY-LAWS.

The by-laws of a number of Chapters have been submitted to me for confirmation being accompanied with the proper recommendation of the Grand Superintendent and in no manner conflicting with the constitution of Grand Chapter, I confirmed them.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

During the year I have officially visited the following Chapters :

- Signet R. A. Chapter, No. 34, Barrie, 8th December, 1885.
- St. Paul's R. A. Chapter, No. 65, Toronto, 9th Dec., 1885.
- Palestine R. A. Chapter, No. 54, St. Thomas, 19th December, 1885.
- King Solomon's R.A. Chapter, No. 8, Toronto, 6th January, 1886.
- Antiquity R. A. Chapter, No. 91, Parkdale, 12th January, 1886.
- Occident R.A. Chapter, No. 77, Toronto, 11th January, 1886.
- St. Andrew and St. John R.A. Chapter, No. 4, Toronto, 15th January, 1886.

Orient R. A. Chapter, No. 79, Toronto, 28th January, 1886.
Ancient Frontenac No. 1, and Cataraqui No. 12, Kingston,
19th March, 1886.

Hiram R. A. Chapter, No. 2, Hamilton, 5th April, 1886.
St. George's, No. 5, and St. John's, No. 3, London, 20th
April, 1886.

St. John's R. A. Chapter, No. 6, Hamilton, 10th June, 1886.

In most of these visits I was accompanied by some of the officers of Grand Chapter, and was well received by the Companions of the respective Chapters.

My visit to Kingston was for the purpose of consummating the amalgamation of the two Chapters to whom I granted a dispensation for that purpose, and also to install the officers of the newly formed Chapter. I had a very enjoyable time, being well received by the Companions and treated with a hospitality I shall not soon forget.

Both of my visits to the Chapters in Hamilton were entertaining and profitable. The degree of the Royal Arch was fully exemplified by the officers of the respective Chapters. I have much pleasure in stating that on no occasion have I ever witnessed the work done better, and am satisfied that the the interests of Capitular Masonry will never suffer while Chapters are governed by officers such as are in charge of these Chapters.

In my official visit to London I was received by the members of both St. George and St. John's Chapters, and was well satisfied that I had made this visit. There were a number of questions to be answered relating to work as well as several matters which required elucidation, and I hope that the Companions of the Forest City will be encouraged by the words of advice given them by the Grand Superintendent, R. E. Comp. Trotter, and overcome that lethargy and diffidence which has retarded them in pushing forth the work in the quarries with that vigor which should actuate all worthy and tried craftsmen.

I desire to convey to the officers and Companions of all the Chapters which I have visited as well as to the Grand Superintendents of the several districts my best thanks for the kindness, courtesy and hospitality which have been accorded to me at all times, and I earnestly hope that the friendship which has been cemented together may never be severed unless by the hand of death.

It is indeed gratifying to me to bear testimony to the indefatigable zeal in the interests of this Grand Chapter of our Grand Scribe E., R.E. Comp. David McLellan, and our Grand Treasurer, R.E. Comp. E. Mitchell ; both of these Companions have the welfare of Grand Chapter always at heart, and I earnestly pray they may long be spared to continue their efforts in your behalf.

CEREMONIES.

I have been informed by the G. S. E. that the supply of Ceremonies is almost exhausted and it will be for you to decide at this convocation whether a new issue shall be authorized and Chapters placed in a position to more fully enable them to perform their duties properly.

OBITUARY.

Companions, although we are permitted to be present at this convocation, we cannot but with feelings of pain and anguish miss those faces with whom we have been familiar in days gone by, It has pleased the Supreme Architect of the Universe, through His wisdom and goodness, to call many of our number to the Grand Chapter above, but let us earnestly hope that while it is our loss it is their eternal gain. We trust they have entered into that inheritance which will never fade away, prepared for all who truly love and serve him. It warns us that death comes to all, and that our days are numbered. May our actions, words and deeds be such that when our time to depart comes, as come it must, we will leave behind us those memories that will be cherished by our Companions in labor, that their loss may be our gain. We have to mourn the loss of R. E. Comp. R. Ramsay, P. G. S. N., who died from the effects of an accident 4th January, 1886. He was to say the least of him a kind good hearted friend, being generous to a fault.

Our representative, R. E. Comp. John S. Bowen, at the Grand Chapter of New York, died 31st July, 1885. He had held that position in relation to this Grand Chapter for many years.

I recommend that memorial pages be placed in our proceedings to commemorate their names.

Lastly, my Companions, I desire to speak plainly to you in reference to a few of the facts which have come under my notice

during the past year. It has been a subject of grave consideration to me and many others in surveying the condition of some of the Chapters of our jurisdiction. Why is this and what can be accomplished to remedy the evil. The reports of the Superintendents clearly state that many Chapters are almost dormant, yet they give no satisfactory explanation.

Is there not a degree of apathy and indifference exhibited amongst the officers of Chapters? Is the work as faithfully and correctly rendered as it was in the olden time? Is there not too much anxiety about past rank in both Subordinate and Grand Chapter? Do we devote that energy and assiduity in getting up that work which it is our duty to do, and to which we have been obligated? Let us pause and carefully examine ourselves and see if the fault be in us. When we are present in our Chapters do we correct irregularities, and check errors as is our duty as rulers and veterans in the Craft? If we do not then we are culpable and deserving of censure. I here state it plainly to you that I have observed too much slipshod work. That in degrees which if properly communicated the candidates receiving them would have been deeply impressed with the lessons that we teach, but who having had these degrees conferred in a careless and neglectful manner have been satisfied with having taken the Royal Arch degrees, and we see them seldom if ever in the Chapter again.

Let me beseech of you all to ponder well this matter that I have brought before your notice, and see earnestly to it whether a change cannot be made that will give lustre, brightness and success to the sublime degrees of Holy Royal Arch.

In conclusion, Companions, I thank you for the many acts of kindness I have received from many of you during this year, earnestly trusting that we may all be blessed by the Most High in all our undertakings through life, and that when we have finished our work here below we may be adjudged worthy of a place in that spiritual temple, that house not made with hands eternal in the heavens. So mote it be.

THOMAS SARGANT, G. Z.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That the address of the M. E. the Grand Z. be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of the Grand Chapter.

The following reports of the various Grand Superintendents of Districts were presented:

LONDON DISTRICT.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chap-
of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

In compliance with the requirements of our Constitution I have the honor of submitting my report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in London District, and my labors in connection therewith.

Early in the year I communicated with all of the thirteen Chapters in the district, with a view to their preparation for an official visit from me. The result, I regret very much to say, did not come up to my expectations. It is true they all responded courteously, and with reasonable alacrity, but I only succeeded in getting meetings from the following Chapters, viz. :

St. John's,	No. 3,	London.
St. George's,	No. 5,	"
Wellington,	No. 47,	Chatham.
Bruce,	No. 53,	Petrolea.
Palestine,	No. 54,	St. Thomas.
Ark,	No. 80,	Windsor.
Aylmer,	No. 81,	Aylmer.

I also visited Amherstburg and Park Hill, but the Companions in each of these places failed to get the requisite number of Companions together to hold a meeting, much to my disappointment.

I was promised a meeting by each of the following Chapters, but up to the present time they have not notified me, viz. :

Wawanosh,	No. 15,	Sarnia.
Erie,	No. 73,	Ridgetown.
Beaver,	No. 74,	Strathroy.
McNabb,	No. 88,	Dresden.

I am very sorry, indeed, that I am compelled to report that the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in London District is far from satisfactory. Many of the Chapters are in a state of lethargy, from which something more potent than my humble efforts is required to arouse them. Permit me, therefore, respectfully to impress upon Grand Chapter the importance and necessity of employing such measures as will revive them

and put them on a proper basis forthwith. Failing in that I have no alternative than to recommend that they be requested to surrender their charters. This, I admit, is rather harsh treatment, and is recommended by me with considerable reluctance, and only on the principle that "desperate diseases demands desperate remedies."

The opinion held by my predecessor, R. E. Comp. Hungerford, regarding the division of the district is heartily concurred in by me. The territory is so extensive that a tour through it entails a great deal of inconvenience on the superintendent as well as loss of time. It should, in my opinion, be divided without delay.

In conclusion permit me to express my gratitude to the many Companions with whom I have come in contact officially throughout the district and elsewhere for the uniform kindness and fraternal courtesy shown me by them.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

DAVID TROTTER,
Supt. London District.

Petrolea, June 21st, 1886.

WILSON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I much regret to report that of the four Chapters in the Wilson District, Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 20, is the only one in which there is apparently any life.

EZRA CHAPTER, NO. 23.

I could get no replies to my letters, and therefore recommend that the charter be withdrawn.

HARRIS CHAPTER, NO. 41,

Is not in working order. I visited Ingersoll and saw several of the Companions. They are hopeful that some new life may be infused shortly.

OXFORD CHAPTER, NO. 18,

Has not met for some time, so I have been unable to visit it. With every desire to advance the cause of the Royal Craft

no opportunity has been afforded me of visiting any other Chapter than No. 20, of which I am a member.

Fraternally submitted,

ROBERT ASHTON,
Grand Supt. Wilson District.

Brantford, July 3rd, 1886.

WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to submit the following report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in Wellington District :

I have visited all the Chapters, and can report fair progress during the year, while peace and harmony prevails throughout the district, not a single case of Masonic complaint having been laid before me.

Grand River Chapter, No. 70, Berlin, Waterloo, No. 32, Galt, Guelph, No. 40, Guelph, and Elora, No. 49, Elora, are all in good working order, and doing a fair amount of work in a very creditable manner, especially Guelph, No. 40, and Elora, No. 49, both of which have been very busy, and the officers doing excellent work. Too much praise cannot be given to my predecessor, R. Ex-Comp. J. Scoon, for his energetic labors in reviving Elora Chapter, and I have much pleasure in reporting the success of his labors in making it one of the foremost Chapters in the district.

Ionic, No. 83, Orangeville, having many difficulties to contend with have not been meeting regularly for some time and are not strong in membership. But the members they have are of the right material, and now that they are properly organized, with applications coming in, I have every reason to believe that prosperity awaits them. I had the honor of installing their officers for the ensuing year.

Enterprise, No. 67, Harriston, is still in a weak condition and not meeting regularly, but has made returns to Grand Chapter.

Saugeen, No. 50, having surrendered at the close of last year returned their charter, which was duly forwarded to Grand Chapter.

The only dispensation asked this year was to allow Ionic,

No. 83, to elect and install their officers on the same night, which was duly granted.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to R. Ex-Comp. David McLellan, Grand S. E., for his kind assistance, also the Companions of Wellington District for their kindness and courtesy to me during the year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM COWAN,
Grand Supt. Wellington District.

Galt, June 23rd, 1886.

HAMILTON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor to present herewith my report on the progress of the Royal Craft in the Hamilton District for the past year.

Of the four Chapters in this district, I had the pleasure of presiding at the elections of three of them and at the installations of all of them.

HIRAM CHAPTER, NO 2, AND ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, N. 6.

These Chapters are ably presided over by Ex. Comp. C. W. Mulligan, (Hiram), and Ex. Comp. James A. Malcolm, (St. John's). The former is serving his second year as Z., and the latter his third. I have had the pleasure of seeing these Chapters working on several occasions, and can only say that they are nobly sustaining the reputation they have long enjoyed as being excellently worked Chapters, and can confidently predict for them many years of prosperity as they both have abundant material available for good officers.

ST. CLAIR CHAPTER, NO. 75.

I visited this Chapter on January 14th, 1886, and installed the officers assisted by R. Ex. Comps. D. McPhie and J. Malloy, V. Ex. Comp. W. Panton and Ex. Comp. C. W. Mulligan. This Chapter has a good set of officers and only requires a little more energy and attention to Capitular Masonry to make it thrive.

I did not witness any of their work, but understand it is such as will meet with the approbation of the Grand Chapter. The Hamilton Companions, of which there was quite a dele-

gation, were as usual royally entertained by the Milton Brethren.

WENTWORTH CHAPTER, NO. 87.

I paid my official visit to this Chapter on the evening of their election of officers, and installed the officers the following month.

I had the pleasure of recommending a dispensation from the Most Excellent, the Grand Z., to install Ex. Comp. Frederick Bennett as Z. of Wentworth Chapter, he not being an installed master, which was granted. Ex. Comp. Bennett is an indefatigable Mason. Although living five miles from the Chapter Room, I am informed he never misses a convocation.

The Royal Arch Degree was worked on the evening of my official visit, and I have pleasure in stating that the work done would do credit to any Chapter. Wentworth Chapter is increasing in membership, and having the constant assistance and counsel of V. Ex. Comp. H. Bickford, must continue to prosper in the good work.

All the Chapters in this District have made their returns and paid their Chapter dues, and financially are all in good condition.

Hamilton District has been honored during the year by two official visits from the Most Excellent the Grand Z.

The first on the regular convocation of Hiram Chapter in April, and the second to St. John's Chapter, at their regular convocation in June. On both occasions all the Chapters in the district were represented. There was also on each occasion a good turn out of Hamilton Companions, among whom were the Grand Scribe E., Grand Treasurer, and nearly every Past Grand Supt. of this district, as well as the M. W. the Grand Master, and the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The M. E. Z. expressed himself as well pleased at the receptions accorded him, and also with the manner in which the work was exemplified on both occasions.

In conclusion I beg to state that the utmost harmony prevails through the district, not a single complaint having reached me during the year. I take this opportunity of thanking the officers and Companions for the many acts of kindness and courtesy extended to me during my term of office.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

F. F. DALLEY.

Grand Supt. Hamilton District.

HURON DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In accordance with established usage and the constitution of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit my report upon the state of Capitular Masonry in Huron District :

I have visited, with much pleasure to myself, all the Chapters in this district, except Shuniah Chapter, at Port Arthur.

I am glad to be able to report that, with the exception of St. James' Chapter, situated at St. Mary's, every Chapter in the district is in a healthy condition and doing more or less work in the dissemination of Masonic light and knowledge. St. James' Chapter is dormant, having made no returns nor held any meetings for some years, and I would therefore recommend that the charter thereof be recalled.

I had hoped to visit Shuniah Chapter, but the distance is very great and I did not feel myself able to lose the time necessary for a trip to Port Arthur.

I cannot close this very brief report without thanking the Companions of the district for the uniformly fraternal manner in which I have been treated by them.

Respectfully submitted,

DEWITT H. MARTYN,
Grand Supt. Huron District.

NIAGARA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor of submitting the following brief report :

On Friday, October 23rd, 1885, I visited Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 19, St. Catharines, on which occasion the officers of the Chapter were duly installed by R. E. Comp. William Forbes, of Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, Grimsby, Ont., accompanied by E. Comp. Loosely.

I granted the following dispensations : To Niagara Chapter, No. 55, Niagara, to wear Royal Arch clothing in attending Divine service, December 27th, 1885, and to Grimsby Chapter, No. 69, to hold election of officers on January 20th, 1886, they having failed to do so at the proper time.

I visited Niagara Chapter on the 25th of February, 1886, and found the Companions working very harmoniously and Chapter prospects bright. I regret very much my inability to visit the other Chapters in the district, owing to the fact that I had been sick for over four months it was impossible, and I sincerely thank the Companions I have had the honor to meet with, both at St. Catharines and Niagara, for the many courtesies received. There has been no complaints or anything demanding official interference.

In resigning the trust committed to me I ask the Companions of the Niagara District to pardon my shortcomings, as circumstances over which I had no control, prevented me from filling to the best of my ability, as I should have done, the duties assigned me.

Fraternally submitted,

SAMUEL SMITH,
Grand Supt. Niagara District.

Niagara Falls South, June 10th, 1886.

TORONTO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

As required by the Constitution of the Grand Chapter I beg to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of the Toronto District for the past Masonic year :

There are 14 Royal Arch Chapters in the district, viz. :

St. Andrews and St. John,	No. 4,	Toronto.
King Solomon's	" 8,	"
Manitou,	" 27,	Collingwood.
Signet,	" 34,	Barrie.
Seymour,	" 38,	Bradford.
Georgian,	" 56,	Owen Sound.
Doric,	" 60,	Newmarket.
York,	" 62,	Eglington.
St. Paul's,	" 65,	Toronto.
Occident,	" 77.	"
Orient,	" 79,	"
Macpherson,	" 86,	Meaford.
Antiquity,	" 91,	Parkdale.
Spry,	" 92,	Alliston.

ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. JOHN.

At the January communication I had the pleasure of installing the officers of this Chapter for the years 1886-7.

On April 16th, in accordance with instructions previously given, Ex. Comp. John Ritchie exemplified the M. M. and P. M. degrees, when I was pleased to see the work so well rendered. At the May convocation I again visited the Chapter. On this occasion the M. Ex. M. M. degree was exemplified by Ex. Comp. Smyth, 2nd Principal H., in a most creditable manner. At the same time Ex. Comp. Seymour Porter gave the Holy Royal Arch in a highly impressive and instructive rendition.

This Chapter is in a healthy condition and bids fair to be very prosperous.

KING SOLOMON'S, NO. 8.

I paid an official visit to this Chapter on April 19th, and found all its affairs business like and satisfactory. Ex. Comp. R. L. Patterson gave the M. M. degree.

I am sorry that, owing to sickness, Ex. Comp. George Clarke has not been able to give the Chapter that attention which so large and growing a Chapter requires, but from my knowledge of the Ex. Comp. and officers I am satisfied they will not be behind any other Chapter in the district.

MANITOU, 27.

This Chapter I visited on the 12th May and found it about stationary. R. Ex. Comp. Robertson exemplified the M. M. degree in his usual impressive manner. I was very cordially entertained by the officers and Comps. of this Chapter.

SIGNET, NO. 34.

In company with the M. Ex. the G. Z. Most Ex. Comp. Thos. Sargent, I visited this Chapter on their Dec. meeting, on the occasion of their election of officers. I need only state that M. Ex. Comp. Spry, P. G. Z., has been at the head of affairs of this Chapter, and if not a healthy one it will not be for want of care and assistance on the part of this most distinguished Comp.

The Chapter is progressing, and bids fair to be one of the most successful in the district.

DORIC, NO. 60.

I had the honor of visiting this Chapter in February, accompanied by Ex. Comp. Clarke, of King Solomon's, when that very enthusiastic Comp., Ex. Comp. Borngasser, exemplified the four degrees in a very impressive manner. I was well received by the Companions of this Chapter, and found it in a progressive state.

YORK, NO. 62.

On the evening of the R. C. of this Chapter, in December, I visited it officially, accompanied by Ex. Comp. Clarke and Comp. Akers, of King Solomon's. There being no work I had not the pleasure of witnessing their manner of giving it, but as the officers are pains-taking I have no doubt when the opportunity arrives they will give a good account of themselves. The Chapter is not progressing.

ST. PAUL'S, NO. 65.

I have visited this Chapter on three occasions. On the December meeting, when they elected their officers, and on the 29th April, when Ex. Comp. Postlethwaite exemplified the Holy Royal Arch in a correct and impressive manner; again in June, on which occasion the P. M. degree was given by Ex. Comp. Postlethwaite, and the M. Ex. M. M. by Ex. Comp. Best, 2nd Principal.

Ex. Comp. Postlethwaite is deserving of all praise for the manner he is educating his officers to succeed him. This Chapter is progressing far towards perfection. Every officer and Comp. is an enthusiastic R. A. M.

ORIENT, NO 79.

This Chapter was visited by me twice: on the occasion of the M. Ex. the Grand Z. installing the officers, and at the regular convocation in April, when Ex. Comp. Park worked the M. M. degree. This Chapter is prospering fairly well, but not so well as its friends would like.

OCCIDENT, NO. 77.

At the R. C. in January I had the pleasure of installing the officers of this Chapter, and on the 26th April I again visited it when the M. M. degree was given by V. Ex. Comp. Jno. A. Wills, in the absence of the 1st Principal from sickness. This

V. Ex. Comp. is a host in himself, and will push the Chapter forward if in the power of any Companion.

There is a good field before this Chapter, and I have every confidence that it will give unmistakable signs of progress in the not distant future.

SPRY CHAPTER, NO. 92.

I officially visited this Chapter on the 20th April and met with a most cordial reception. It was a surprise as well as a pleasure to meet so many distinguished Companions at the meeting of this Chapter. The four degrees were exemplified: 1st, the M. M. degree, by Ex. Comp. Patterson, 1st Principal; the P. M., by Most Ex. Comp. D. Spry, P. G. Z.; the M. Ex. M. M. degree, by Ex. Comp. Downie, 1st Principal, of Signet Chapter, Barrie, and the Holy Royal Arch by R. Ex. Comp. Stevenson, Past Grand Supt. of Toronto District. All the degrees were worked in accordance with the Grand Chapter Ritual, and highly creditable to every Comp. assisting. There were three candidates for the M. M., five for P. M., five for M. Ex., and five for R. A. I spent a most enjoyable evening and morning, and it will take a long time to efface it from my memory.

DISPENSATIONS.

I recommended to the Grand Z. the issuing of the following Dispensations:

1st. To install a Companion as 1st Principal, he not being a Past or Worshipful Master.

2nd. To permit a Chapter to install their officers on a night other than that provided by their By-laws.

3rd. To allow Companions of a Chapter to wear R. A. clothing at a concert.

All of which he was pleased to grant.

CONCLUSION.

I have endeavored during my year of office to have the four degrees in Royal Arch Masonry exemplified in every Chapter in the district, and issued circulars to that effect on three occasions, but my efforts were not crowned with that success which I have desired. Some Chapters pleaded for longer time to prepare their officers, others on account of absence on the part of their 1st Principal and from other causes.

Seymour Chapter, I am sorry to say, I could not get together so as to visit them. This is the only Chapter in the district that has not met for some time

Georgian Chapter, on the night of my proposed visit, would be minus their three Principals, so I had to abandon my visit to them.

Macpherson, Meaford. The 1st Principal was called away on business to the Upper Lakes for some time, and their being no other 1st Principal in that town I had to give up visiting the Chapter.

I have great pleasure in stating that during my official year I have not had a single complaint brought to my notice, peace and harmony prevailing throughout the district, which speaks well for the future of R. A. Masonry.

I cannot conclude without expressing my sincere thanks to the Companions of the Chapters I had the pleasure of visiting for their uniform kindness to me during my official year.

ALEX PATTERSON.

Grand Supt. Toronto District.

Toronto, 23rd June, 1886.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

I have the honor herewith to submit my report of the progress of the Royal Craft in Ontario District for the past year. The District comprises six Chapters, viz :

1. Pentalpha,	No. 28, Oshawa.
2. Keystone,	" 35, Whitby.
3. Corinthian,	" 36, Peterboro.
4. Victoria,	" 37, Port Hope.
5. Excelsior,	" 45, Colborne.
6. St. John's	" 48, Cobourg.

Of the above, I am sorry to say that only three—Corinthian, Peterboro ; Victoria, Port Hope ; and St. John's, Cobourg—are in a flourishing condition.

I have written repeatedly to the officers of Pentalpha and Keystone Chapters without eliciting any reply, and I have only learned concerning them indirectly through members to whom I have written privately. This information, if correct is not

encouraging, the members being so apathetic as to render it exceedingly difficult to get a quorum to attend the meetings. I have suggested to both Chapters the desirability of one or the other surrendering its warrant and amalgamating. The two towns, Whitby and Oshawa, are only a few miles apart, and though both possess good material and able workers, yet I am firmly of the opinion that the interests of Royal Arch Masonry would be better served by having one good, strong Chapter, than as at present with two in a nearly dormant condition. Both Chapters are in arrears for fees to Grand Chapter, Keystone having made no returns since 1880, and Pentalpha since 1884. I would quite willingly have devoted some time to getting these Chapters into good working order, but until the officers and members themselves evince a willingness to faithfully discharge their duty to the Order, I think it would be impossible for any District Superintendent to infuse new life into them. I hope my successor will be more fortunate in bringing these Chapters to that state of efficiency so desirable in their own interest and that of the Order at large.

Excelsior Chapter, Colborne, is also in arrears for Grand Chapter dues, and is practically dormant. The village is small and as several of the members reside in the country a quorum is seldom obtainable. I visited Colborne sometime ago, and in conversation with the First Principal he informed me that they were quite willing to pay up all arrears, and surrender their warrant for the present. I would, therefore, recommend that on payment of the Grand Chapter fees due up to 30th June last, Excelsior Chapter be permitted to surrender its warrant, and that its Regalia, Jewels, and other Paraphernalia, be placed in the keeping of E. Comp. W. L. Payne, First Principal Z., or other Companion or Companions as the members may select in trust for said Chapter. I am not without hope that this Chapter may be resuscitated in the course of a short time, but there are circumstances beyond the control of the officers and members existing at present, which render the course recommended above as being the most prudent one.

Corinthian Chapter at Peterboro', I am glad to say, is in a flourishing condition, ably officered, and worked with vigor and ability.

St. John's Chapter at Cobourg, has done an excellent year's work, having added considerably to its membership, and the material taken in is just such as is required for the building of the Temple. All the officers are well up in their work, and

St. John's Chapter is now one of the best and most efficient on the roll of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

Victoria Chapter, Port Hope is likewise prosperous and doing good work, and with good prospects ahead, I have no doubt that in the course of the coming year it will add quite a number of new members to its muster roll.

My experience has shown that if the number to constitute a quorum was reduced, the meetings in small Chapters in country places would be more frequent. The difficulty frequently happens in being unable to secure the presence of three Principals. One Principal should suffice for ordinary business, and five members constitute a quorum. This change would be a good one for rural Chapters.

I am pleased to be able to report that a dispensation has been granted for a new Chapter in the flourishing town of Lindsay, to be called "Midland" Chapter, which I have every confidence will prove an acquisition to the District, and a credit to Grand Chapter. E. Comp. J. W. Wallace has been named as First Principal, and as he has had a great deal of experience as W. M. of a lodge, in which position he proved himself an able, energetic and efficient worker, and as he has associated with him a number of capable Companions, I expect the new Chapter to do good and square work from the day of its institution.

It affords me a great deal of pleasure to say that not a single complaint has been made to me during the year, indicating that good feeling and harmony prevails throughout the District, May it ever continue so.

During the year I have recommended that several Dispensations should be issued for the installation of Companions who had not served in offices required by the Constitution, all of which were granted. I have seen recommendations urging the curtailing of such Dispensations, but from what I have seen during my connection with the R. A., and particularly from my experience of the past year, I am strongly of the opinion that these Dispensations serve a very useful purpose, as they give the Chapter a wider range from which to select their officers. A companion may be selected as J., and prove a failure. The H. or Z. may not wish re-election, so that it would be absurd to be forced to promote an officer whose incompetency is painfully apparant to all.

My cordial thanks are due to R. E. Comp. David McLellan,

R. E. Comp. Chas. Doebler, V. E. Comp. R. J. Winch, V. E. Comp. H. B. F. Odell, and other Companions, for their kind aid on occasions when it was in their power to be of assistance to me.

All of which is respectfully solicited,

J. B. TRAYES,
Grand Supt. Ontario District.

Port Hope, July 2nd, 1886.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In submitting my second annual report as Grand Superintendent of this district let me say that my district is composed of four Chapters, viz. :

Moir, No. 7.

Prince Edward, No. 31.

Mount Sinai, No. 44.

St. Marks, No. 26.

It affords me great pleasure in presenting this report to be able to state, in regard to the three first named Chapters, that no complaint of any kind has been brought before me, which speaks very highly of the harmony that prevails among the Companions of the district. Long may it continue.

But in regard to St. Marks, No. 26, Trenton, the Companions must have lost all interest in Capitular Masonry, as it is impossible to get a reply to any communications, from any of its officers, and all my endeavors, as well as all my predecessors, has proven in vain. I would therefore recommend that Grand Chapter summons the officers whose duty it was to see to the safe-keeping of the Charter, etc., and to give an account of the loss of the same.

I have made several visits to Moira Chapter, and it always affords me great pleasure to spend an evening there and see them confer the R. A. Degree.

All the Principals are well up in their work, and with such Principals as Ex. Comps. Farley, McGinnis and Webster, there will be no danger of the Arch crumbling through neglect.

They inform me that they are expending a very large sum in fitting up their Chapter Rooms, and I do not doubt but that

they will excel any Chapter rooms in the Dominion of Canada.

I am sorry that I have not been able to visit Prince Edward Chapter this year; but knowing that this Chapter is guarded by a Past Grand Z., Most Ex. Companion Donald Ross, I have no fears as to the welfare of the Chapter.

The officers and members of this Chapter take a great interest in Capitular Masonry.

I must now come to my own Chapter—Mount Sinai.

We are in a very prosperous condition, we have forty-one members good and slowly adding to our numbers, not so many as in the last two years; but slow growth with Harmony, Peace and Love is more to be desired than rapid growth with Anger and Discord.

I am sorry to have to record the deaths of two of our Companions of Mount Sinai Chapter this last year, Companion A. D. Fraser and Ex. Companion A. K. Aylsworth, M. D., Past Third Principal of our Chapter. The latter was buried with Masonic honors at Newburgh. Our Chapter turned out to pay the last sad rite to the deceased Companion.

May their souls find eternal rest.

I cannot close my report without making mention of my visit outside of my own district.

On the visit of the Grand Z. to Kingston for the purpose of installing the officers of the amalgamated Chapters in that city, the kindness shown me will not soon be forgotten. The officers and members of that city have spent a lifetime in furthering the interests of Capitular Masonry.

I will have to apologize to Rt. Ex. Companion Plant, Grand Superintendent of the Central District for my encroachment of territory if I continue visiting in his district.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. WALTERS,
Grand Supt. Prince Edward District.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

To the M. E. the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada :

In compliance with the requirements of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit my second annual report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the Central District.

Since my last report the Chapters in Kingston, Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, have amalgamated, this district now having but seven Chapters.

ANCIENT FRONTENAC AND CATARAQUI, NO. 1, KINGSTON.

Royal Arch Masonry in Kingston for some time had made but slow progress. The amalgamation of the two Chapters will give Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui the greatest numerical strength of any in this district, and from the past record of the officers who now preside. There is every probability of this Chapter taking a leading position. Although invited I was unable to be present at the first installation of the officers. At the time of my previous visit I found the room well furnished, and the officers well up in the work.

CARLETON, NO. 16, OTTAWA.

I have much pleasure in saying the Companions of this Chapter still exhibit the same life, energy and zeal as displayed last year, and are adding largely to the number on their roll of membership. The Chapter is well supplied with every requisite for the proper carrying out of our ceremonies. The Chapter is in a good financial condition, and the books kept in first-class order.

On January 27th, 1886, I had the pleasure of installing the officers.

GRENVILLE, NO. 22, PRESCOTT.

This Chapter I have been unable to visit this year, but from reports I have received everything is in a very satisfactory state.

PEMBROKE, NO. 58, PEMBROKE.

The hall in which this Chapter met was burned down ten years ago. The regalia, together with the warrant, was destroyed, and there has been no meetings of the Companions since.

Many of the Companions who were on the books at that time have left Pembroke, and the few that remain are desirous of starting again. A petition has been sent through me praying Grand Chapter to remit back dues, and grant a duplicate warrant. I have much pleasure in recommending same to the favorable consideration of Grand Chapter, although the number making the application is small, only those residing in

Pembroke. The companions living in the immediate neighborhood could be got together, and if a start was once made the Chapter would flourish, as there are a number of unaffiliated R. A. Masons in Pembroke who wish to join, and a great number of Master Masons in Pembroke and Mattawa have pressed me to do all I could to get the Chapter in working order, as the Pembroke brethren would have to go 70 miles and the Mattawa brethren about 200 miles to receive the R. A. Degree.

SUSSEX, NO. 59, BROCKVILLE.

I have much pleasure in saying this Chapter is in good working order, the attendance is well up to the mark, and members being constantly added to the roll. The officers are efficient and the books are now well kept. I visited this Chapter for the purpose of installing the officers. The Companions were well satisfied with the officers elected, with the exception of the 2nd Principal elect, Ex. Comp. Quigg, Ex. Comp. Kearns charging him with having misappropriated the funds of the Chapter whilst acting as Treasurer, and also with not having produced his books when called upon so to do, as the *alleged* offence had taken place some twelve years ago, and Ex. Comp. Quigg having since been elected and installed as 3rd Principal, I felt justified in going into the matter before proceeding with the installation, especially as I was asked to do so by Comp. Kearns, who made the charge. Some twelve years ago Comp. Quigg got into financial difficulties, and his property, money and papers were seized. The monies of the Chapter, about \$150, not being kept separate from his own, was seized also. From time to time he met the demands made upon him by the Chapter, until a sum of about \$70 was still due, when he was summoned by the Chapter to produce the books and monies belonging to the Chapter. In answer to the last summons he appeared and a verbal explanation was made, and having agreed to pay a further sum of \$73 owing by the Chapter for rent, a resolution was carried unanimously to the following effect: "That having heard the explanation of Comp. Quigg the Chapter deem it inexpedient to press the matter further." The books asked for were not produced, as the Chapter possessed no Treasurer's book. The Companion himself had a small memorandum book, which he entered the amounts in, but this disappeared when his stock was seized, and it was impossible for him to produce it, having asked the Companions

who were present when the above resolution was carried, they each said it was understood that the Chapter had been repaid the amount due by Treasurer, and that the money was delayed in payment by force of circumstances, and not with the intention of defrauding the Chapter. Comp. Kearns then said he was not aware of the above resolution being on the minutes of the Chapter, he not being a member at the time, and with a truly fraternal spirit withdrew the objection to the installation of Ex. Comp. Quigg. The Companions have worked well together, and I was much pleased the matter was so amicably settled, still I feel in duty bound to mention this in my report as a guide to my successors, as I have since heard there are outside influences being brought to bear to still keep up, what I consider, the *persecution* of Ex. Comp. Quigg. The whole trouble arose through not conducting the financial affairs of the Chapter on business principles. The Treasurer's book was presented, and had been audited for the first time, at this convocation. This Chapter has considerable cash on hand, and I pointed out the necessity of procuring further articles of furniture, which are indispensable to the proper working of the degrees, and I have no doubt my suggestion has been carried out, as it did not involve a very large outlay.

GRANITE, NO. 61, ALMONTE.

Since the removal of this Chapter from Perth much progress has been made. The officers are well up in the work, enthusiastic Masons, and have every facility for conferring the degrees in a proper manner. Several members have been added to the roll this year.

MAITLAND, NO. 68, MAITLAND.

This Chapter has not met since October, '84, on which occasion five candidates were exalted to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch. The returns are, however, much out to date, and an effort is being made to put the Chapter in good working order. There is plenty of money on hand, but the difficulty lies in getting the Companions together, some living at such a distance from the Chapter. Many of the Comps. S. E. think the Grand Superintendent should only receive notices when there is work to be done. Some have sent me notices regularly, but some are not up to the mark.

On the whole I am pleased to say Capitular Masonry has made much progress in my district during the past year, and I

think we may look forward to even better things next year.

I have been notified of one death this year in this district, that of R. Ex. Comp. R. Ramsay, of Maitland Chapter.

On retiring from the office of Grand Superintendent I have to thank the officers and Companions of the Chapters I have visited for the kindness shown to me during my term of office.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

EDWIN PLANT,
Grand Supt. Central District.

Ottawa, June 30th, 1886.

NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In compliance with the Constitution, I herewith submit my seventh annual report on the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in this Jurisdiction.

There are four Chapters in this District.

No. 10, New Brunswick,	St. John.
No. 11, Saint Mark's,	St. Andrews.
No. 39, Botsford,	Moncton.
No. 89, Woodstock,	Woodstock.

NEW BRUNSWICK, NO 10.

This Chapter is moderately prosperous considering that we have to contend against two Chapters under the Grand Chapter of Scotland.

At the regular meeting in June, I installed the officers; and it affords me much pleasure to state that all the officers are well up in their work. Degrees are conferred at nearly all the regular meetings.

SAINT MARK'S, NO. 11.

I saw the Principal Z. of this Chapter at the meeting of our Grand Lodge in April, he said, "We are not doing much in the Chapter, but intend to hang on and trust that times will mend. I trust they may, for we want them to change a little for the better in this quarter of the Dominion.

BOTSFORD NO. 39.

On the fourth day of January in company with a large num-

ber of Companions. I paid an official visit to this Chapter, and after installing the officers, assisted in conferring degrees on fifteen candidates, and since that date ten or fifteen more have made application to join the Chapter which looks well for Botsford. The Chapter has procured a good outfit, and the officers and members are determined to make it one of the best Chapters in this District, and the material is there to do it.

WOODSTOCK, NO. 89.

I cannot say much for this Chapter as I have not received any communication from any one connected with it, but the Chapter is safe in the hands of Companion Merritt.

In resigning my office, I take this opportunity of returning my thanks for the many acts of kindness extended to me by the members of the Royal Craft during my long term of office. It is a pleasing duty to perform to have it in my power to state in resigning, that no complaints have been made, that peace and good fellowship prevail throughout the whole Jurisdiction, and it is my sincere prayer to the Great I Am that the same good feeling may long continue.

Respectfully submitted.

HERNY DUFFELL,

Grand Supt. New Brunswick District.

St. John, N. B., June 28th, 1886.

MANITOBA DISTRICT.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

In conformity with the regulations of Grand Chapter, I have the honor to submit my report as Grand Superintendent of Manitoba District.

Owing to circumstances over which I had not any control I was unable to send you any report last year, but can safely say that the officers and Companions of Prince Rupert No. 52, Winnipeg, and Golden No. 90, of Rat Portage, the only two Royal Arch Chapters in my District, did their best to keep up the reputation of their respective Chapters.

Unfortunately I was compelled to leave for the old country on business of importance this spring, and on my return I found Prince Rupert No. 52 in as good a condition as when I left it, having been carefully looked after by Excellent Companion John Leslie, I. P. Z.

PRINCE RUPERT'S CHAPTER, NO. 52.

Having been elected First Principal of this Chapter, I feel some delicacy in passing any remarks concerning it, so will simply state that it is in a good flourishing condition. The officers were installed at the regular convocation in January last by our old, zealous and faithful standby, R. Ex. Companion Joseph Hurssell, assisted by Ex. Companions Leslie and Forrest.

GOLDEN ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER NO. 90.

I visited this Chapter at the regular convocation in January and installed the officers. This Chapter is doing fairly well, but like most institutions of the kind started in a *hurry* and in a thinly settled portion of the country, it labors under the disadvantage of its officers moving to distant parts, and the difficulty of getting members to attend, they living so far away. The books are clean and neatly kept, and financially I believe is in good standing. The First Principal, Ex. Companion D. T. Ferguson, is a good painstaking officer, and I feel sure that any Order would succeed under his fostering care.

DISPENSATIONS.

At the request of the Companions of Prince Rupert Chapter, No. 52, I recommended to the M. E., the Grand Z., that he should issue his dispensation to install Companion William Geo. Bell a Past Master, as 2nd Principal H. of said Chapter, he not having served as J.

Also at the request of the Companions of Golden Chapter, No. 90, I recommended that M. E., the Grand Z., should issue his dispensation to install Ex. Companion David T. Ferguson, past J. and a Presiding Master, as First Principal Z. of said Chapter, both of which were courteously granted. There were not any dispensations granted by me during the past two years.

When I started for the Old Country I was fully convinced that a dispensation for a new Chapter would have been asked for and granted before I returned, but, I suppose the Companions who had the matter in hand, deemed it advisable to leave the matter over until cooler weather set in. There is room for another Chapter in Winnipeg, and one at the Portage, another at Brandon, and one at Calgary. There are a sufficient number of Companions in each of these places to start Chapters, if they would only take hold.

Before closing I wish to express my hearty thanks to the

Companions of the two Chapters over which I have the honor to preside as G. Supt., and my kind friend and R. Ex. Companion David McLellan for the many courtesies extended to me during the past two years.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. F. FORREST,
Grand Supt. Manitoba District.

Winnipeg, Man., June 7th, 1886.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That the reports of the Grand Superintendents of Districts be referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon during the present Convocation of Grand Chapter.

R. E. Comp. David McLellan, Grand Scribe E, submitted his annual and cash statements of moneys received during the past year, together with the books, etc.

R. E. Comp. Edward Mitchell, Grand Treasurer, submitted his annual statement of receipts and disbursements, with vouchers attached

ANNUAL STATEMENT, JUNE 30TH, 1886.

DAVID MCLELLAN, G. S. E., in account with Grand Chapter.

No. 1—Anc't Frontenac and Cata- raqui.....\$ 22 40	Brought forward.... \$ 891 40
" 2—The Hiram..... 94 80	No. 60—Doric..... 6 80
" 3—St. John's..... 17 00	" 61—Granite 13 40
" 4—St. Andrew and St. John..... 36 00	" 63—Havelock 44 50
" 5—St. George's..... 16 40	" 65—St. Paul's 34 80
" 6—St. John's 64 00	" 67—Enterprise 25 60
" 7—Moir..... 23 40	" 68—Maitland..... 5 50
" 8—King Solomon's.. 1 00	" 69—Grimsby..... 6 60
" 10—New Brunswick.. 57 60	" 70—Grand River.... 8 60
" 11—St. Mark's..... 7 70	" 73—Erie..... 3 20
" 15—Wawanosh..... 56 60	" 75—St. Clair..... 7 00
" 16—Carleton..... 32 50	" 76—Mount Nebo.... 7 20
" 19—Mount Moriah.. 1 00	" 77—Occident..... 62 70
" 20—Mount Horeb.... 14 00	" 79—Orient..... 44 60
" 22—Grenville..... 6 60	" 80—Ark..... 20 00
" 24—Tecumseh 9 20	" 81—Aylmer 10 80
" 27—Manitou..... 5 40	" 82—Shuniah..... 24 90
" 29—McCallum 22 60	" 83—Ionic 24 10
" 30—Huron..... 16 80	" 84—Lebanon..... 6 40
" 31—Prince Edward.. 23 40	" 85—Exeter..... 6 60
" 32—Waterloo..... 11 00	" 86—Macpherson. 4 40
" 34—Signet..... 18 30	" 87—Wentworth 19 20
" 36—Corinthian .. . 29 60	" 88—McNabb..... 5 00
" 37—Victoria..... 10 30	" 89—Woodstock, N.B. 6 20
" 38—Seymour..... 6 65	" 90—Golden..... 29 80
" 39—Botsford 25 30	" 91—Antiquity 16 20
" 40—Guelph 22 20	" 92—Spry 22 20
" 44—Mount Sinai 16 70	One copy of constitution.. 20
" 47—Wellington..... 18 20	Interest on Western Can- ada Loan Deb.... 150 10
" 48—St. John's 43 85	Interest on Toronto Gen- eral Trust Bond. 39 86
" 49—Elora 50 20	Interest on Toronto Land Security Stock.... 150 73
" 52—Prince Rupert.. 1 00	Interest on Dominion Stock 112 50
" 53—Bruce..... 12 60	Interest on Bank De- posits..... 68 10
" 54—Palestine. 27 30	Dominion Stock 5% re- deemed..... 4500 00
" 55—Niagara..... 8 00	
" 56—Georgian..... 15 80	
" 57—King Hiram 7 20	
" 59—Sussex..... 38 80	
	\$ 891 40
	\$ 6379 19

E. MITCHELL, GRAND TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH GRAND
CHAPTER, R. A. M.

Dr.

1885.						
July	1—	To	Balance as per statement, 30th June, 1885.....	\$	4243	01
"	31—	"	Grand Scribe E.....	\$	165	60
Aug	31—	"	" " ".....		46	65
Sep	30—	"	" " ".....		6	50
Oct	31—	"	" " ".....		4689	35
Nov	30—	"	" " ".....		19	00
Dec	29—	"	Interest on Bank Account to date.....		60	61
"	31—	"	Grand Scribe E.....		11	45
1886.						
Jan	2—	"	" " ".....		114	86
"	30—	"	" " ".....		8	00
Feb	15—	"	" " ".....		37	60
"	27—	"	" " ".....		65	00
Mar	31—	"	" " ".....		30	30
Apr	30—	"	" " ".....		23	50
May	31—	"	" " ".....		179	10
June	26—	"	Interest on Bank Account to date.....		7	49
"	30—	"	Grand Scribe E.....		914	18
					6379	19

\$10622 20

Cr.

1885.						
July	2—	By	Order No. 224, Mrs. T. B. Harris, grant..	\$	50	00
"	11—	"	" 227. Hy. Macpherson, P. G. Z., incidentals..		50	00
"	14—	"	" 228, J. Eastwood & Co., registers.		6	75
"	14—	"	" 229, A. McPherson, printing		46	25
"	15—	"	" 233, David McLellan, incidentals.....		60	00
"	16—	"	" 232, W. W. Summers, services at Gr. Chap..		5	00
"	17—	"	" 230, Henry Robertson, for Foreign Correspondence Report.....		50	00
"	17—	"	" 231, Rolph Smith & Co., certificates.....		60	00
"	18—	"	" 237, Arch Couper, ½ yearly grant....		25	00
"	18—	"	" 238, Wm. Bruce, engrossing warrant..		4	50
"	22—	"	" 235, Mary Ann Bartlett, ½ yearly grant....		10	00
"	23—	"	" 236, Agnes Cheetham, ½ yearly grant.....		10	00
"	23—	"	" 234, Mrs. Harington, ½ yearly grant.....		20	00
"	31—	"	" 239, Royal Ins. Co., on G. C. property.		5	00
Aug	7—	"	" 240, A. McPherson, G. C. proceedings, etc..		159	56
Sept	29—	"	" 242, Toronto General Trusts Co., investment.		3000	00
Oct	9—	"	" 243, David McLellan, salary.....		175	00
"	12—	"	" 244, Mrs. T. B. Harris, grant		50	00
"	16—	"	" 245, Rolph Smith & Co., certificates.....		75	00
Nov	3—	"	" 246, Western Canada Loan Co., investment..		4500	00
1886.						
Jan'y	9—	"	" 252, David McLellan, salary.....		175	00
"	14—	"	" 251, Mrs. T. B. Harris, grant.....		50	00
"	18—	"	" 250, Arch. Couper, grant.....		25	00
"	18—	"	" 249, Agnes Cheetham, grant		10	00
"	27—	"	" 247, Mrs. Harington, grant.		20	00
Feb	1—	"	" 238, Mary A. Bartlett.....		10	00
"	5—	"	" 253, Lowe & Anderson, presentation P.G.Z..		224	44
Mar	10—	"	" 254, 1st call allotment Land Security stock..		45	00
April	1—	"	" 256, David McLellan, salary.....		175	00
"	5—	"	" 255, Mrs. T. B. Harris, grant.....		50	00
June	11—	"	" 253, David McLellan, salary.....		175	00
"	15—	"	" 257, Mrs T. B. Harris, grant.....		50	00
"	29—	"	" 259, Land Security C.o 2nd call on allotment..		45	00
"	30—	By	balance, (Bank of Commerce).....		1205	70

\$10622 20

Moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, and

Resolved, That the Annual Statements of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Executive Committee for Audit and to report thereon at the present convocation.

R. E. Comp. Henry Robertson, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented the report of the Committee, which, on motion of R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, was received and ordered to be printed as an appendix to the proceedings.

Letters were then read from R. E. Comp. J. K. Kerr, R. E. Comp. D. R. Munro, R. E. Comp. Samuel Smith, and M. E. Comp. S. B. Harman regretting their inability to be present at this convocation, and they all express the wish that the meeting may be one of profit and pleasure to all the Companions who may be privileged to attend to all of whom they desire to be kindly remembered.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., then presented the report of the committee appointed at last annual convocation to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, P. G. Z., as follows :—

REPORT OF TESTIMONIAL COMMITTEE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The committee appointed at the last Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. Ex. Comp. Henry Macpherson on his retirement from the office of Grand Z., after two years faithful service, respectfully report that they procured the testimonial, and had the pleasure of presenting it, with a suitable address beautifully engrossed, to our esteemed M. Ex. Companion on the 29th January last, in the presence of a large number of Masons and citizens, at a Masonic Assembly, held in the town of Owen Sound, where he resides, and is highly appreciated. The large number of Masons and leading citizens who assembled on the occasion to show their regard for our Companion added much to the gratification of your committee in the performance of their

agreeable duty. Copies of the address and reply are hereunto annexed.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

DANIEL SPRY, P. G. Z.,	} <i>Committee.</i>
<i>Chairman.</i>	
HENRY ROBERTSON, P. G. H.	
JOHN CREASOR, P. G. Reg.	

Barrie, July 13th, 1886.

ADDRESS.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF CANADA.

To Most Excellent Companion, Henry Macpherson, Past Grand Z.

DEAR SIR AND MOST EXCELLENT COMPANION,—The duty that devolves upon us this evening is a pleasant one, as it enables us on behalf of the Royal Arch Masons of this jurisdiction to express to you in tangible form the respect they have for you as a man and a citizen, and of assuring you of the high esteem in which you are held as a Companion of that great Brotherhood, whose tenets teach us that in the legend of the Temple Builder we are learning the great and useful lessons that are beneficial to all mankind, making them happier while on earth and enabling them to bear the heat and burden of the day, so that when their sun is setting they can with confidence await the summons to the great beyond and enter into their reward.

Most Excellent Sir you are held so high in the estimation of the Craft in this and other jurisdictions, owing to the warm interest you have taken in all branches of the Fraternity, more especially in that of Capitular Masonry, that you were indeed worthy of the high office which you so efficiently and creditably filled during the past two years. This knowledge adds to the pleasure we have in addressing you on your retirement from the position of Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada. The Royal Craft desire to pay you the highest meed of approbation for your kindly and well-timed advice, your courteous demeanor to all the Companions with whom you have come in contact, and the justice and equity of your rulings as Presiding Officer. We know you have labored in the vineyard as one who appreciated Masonry with its sublime truths, the purity of its principles, the beauty of its allegories veiling that system of morality which is illustrated by symbols, and felt that it aided us in the daily routine of life and taught

us that in the Celestial Chapter we should in truth behold the eternal Master.

And we earnestly trust that your interest in the Royal Art will not be lessened by your retirement from the active duties of the chair, but that in the time to come, as of old, you will often sit with us in Council. With the kindest and most fraternal feeling of the officers and Companions of Grand Chapter we ask you to accept the accompanying testimonial, with the best wishes for your welfare and happiness.

We are on behalf of the Grand Chapter,

DAVID McLELLAN,
Grand Scribe E.

THOS. SARGANT,
Grand Z.

DANIEL SPRY, P.G.Z.,	} <i>Committee.</i>
<i>Chairman.</i>	
HENRY ROBERTSON, P.H.	
JOHN CREASOR, P. G. Reg.	

Owen Sound, January 29th, 1886.

On motion of M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., seconded by M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, P. G. Z., the report was received and adopted.

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, P. G. Z., then replied as follows :

MOST EXCELLENT AND RIGHT EXCELLENT COMPANIONS :

I thank you for the very kind and flattering language with which you have carried out the duty imposed on you by the Grand Chapter of Canada, and for the very handsome testimonial with which on their behalf you have presented me, and which I will ever value as a token that the Companions of Grand Chapter have appreciated my efforts during the period I have taken an active part in their labors. I was initiated into Masonry nearly 29 years ago, and exalted to the Supreme Degree of the Holy Royal Arch during the following year. It is 20 years since I was first placed in one of the principal chairs of a Royal Arch Chapter, since which time I have been intimately connected with the working of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and I have now had the distinguished honor of having been twice elected to the highest position within the gift of my Fellows and Companions, that of Grand First Principal of the Grand Chapter of Canada. I have always held in high esteem and veneration, the noble lessons taught in the various degrees of Freemasonry, and it has been a labor of love to

assist in every way in disseminating our sublime principles.

I hope, while I am spared and in health, to continue to meet in Grand Chapter, those Companions with whom I have had so much pleasant intercourse, and to consult with and aid them in carrying out the Grand Principles of our beloved Institution.

Will you Most Excellent Sir, kindly convey to the Companions of Grand Chapter, my heartfelt thanks for the many acts of kindness and consideration I have received at their hands for the great honor they have done me, in electing me to preside over them—for the valuable address and handsome testimonial with which I have this evening been presented.

HENRY MACPHERSON,
P. G. Z., Grand Chapter of Canada.

Owen Sound, January 29th, 1886.

The Grand Scribe E. then presented a handsomely bound copy of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Nebraska for the years 1878 to 1882 inclusive.

A petition from Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, Pembroke, was then read, setting forth that their hall was destroyed by fire some years ago, whereby, they lost all their furniture and their warrant, and they request that a new warrant be issued free of cost and their dues be remitted, which, if granted, they feel assured that in a short time they can work up a vigorous Chapter which will be kept afloat thereafter.

This petition was referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon at this Convocation.

A petition duly signed by eleven Royal Arch Masons residing in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, asking for a warrant empowering them to open and hold a regular Chapter at Melbourne, aforesaid, was then read, when it was moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, and

Resolved, That the petition be received and referred to the Executive Committee to report thereon at this convocation.

Official letters were then presented from the following Grand Chapters, viz. :

GRAND CHAPTER OF ARKANSAS,

Notifying this Grand Chapter of the death of Past Grand

High Priest, Luke E. Barber, who died at his home in the city of Little Rock, on Sunday, the 13th June, 1886, aged *four score* years.

GRAND CHAPTER OF ILLINOIS.

The door of this Grand Chapter is without a Guard. Ex. Comp. Arnold R. Robinson, Grand Tyler, departed this life on the 28th August, 1885, aged 78 years.

GRAND CHAPTER OF NEW YORK

A shining light has been extinguished by the death of Past Grand High Priest, William T. Woodruff, which sad event occurred at his residence, in the city of New York, March 4th, 1886.

GRAND CHAPTER OF VERMONT,

Which Grand Body mourns the loss of Past Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. Edward Summers Dana, who died at his residence in New Haven, February 24th, 1886, aged 52.

The Executive Committee beg leave to report as follows :—

AUDIT AND FINANCE REPORT.

The Committee on Audit and Finance beg to report that they have examined the books of the Grand Scribe E. and Grand Treasurer up to June 30th, 1886, and find them correct.

The receipts and disbursements for the past year have been as follows :

RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand.....		\$ 4243 01
Certificates.....	\$377 50	
Dues.....	721 80	
Registration fees.....	199 00	
Dispensations.....	25 00	
Warrants.....	10 00	
Constitutions.....	4 60	
Ceremonies.....	20 00	
Interest on Dominion Stock.....	112 50	
“ Western Canada Loan Co. Debenture..	150 10	
“ Toronto Land Security Co.....	150 73	
“ “ General Trust Co.....	39 86	
“ Bank Deposits.....	68 10	\$ 1879 19
Dominion Stock 5% redeemed.....		4500 00
		\$10622 20

DISBURSEMENTS.

Mrs. Harris, benevolent grant, 5 quarters.	\$ 250 00	
Grand Scribe E., salary.	700 00	
Grand Scribe E., incidentals.	60 00	
Past Grand Z., incidentals, 2 years, 1883-84, 1884-85.	50 00	
Presentation to Past Grand Z.	224 44	
Foreign Correspondence, 1885.	50 00	
Grants as per Com. on Benevolence.	130 00	
Rolph, Smith & Co, certificates.	135 00	
A. McPherson, printing proceedi's and incidental pr'tg	205 81	
J. Eastwood & Co., registers for Benevolent Com.	6 75	
W. W. Summers, Grand Janitor.	5 00	
Wm. Bruce, engrossing warrant.	4 50	
Royal Insurance Co.	5 00	
		\$1826 50
Investment account.		7590 00
Cash in bank.		1205 70
		\$10622 20

ASSETS.

	Par Value.	Market Value, July 15th, '86.	
Sixty paid up shares, the Land Security Co.'s stock	\$ 1500 00 @ 180 00	\$ 2700 00	
Ninety allotted shares, the Land Security Co.'s stock	90 00 @ 180 00	162 00	
Toronto General Trust Co's bond.	3000 00	3000 00	} Straight Loan.
Western Canada Loan and Savings Co Deb.	4500 00	4500 00	
Cash in bank	1205 70	1205 70	
	\$10295 70	\$11567 70	

LIABILITIES.

Royal Insurance Co.	\$ 5 00
A. McPherson, printing	16 75
Foreign Correspondence.	50 00
Grand Scribe E., incidentals 1886-7.	65 00
	\$136 75

Your Committee have carefully considered the tenders for printing, and would recommend that in consideration of the highly satisfactory manner in which our proceedings have been printed for the last three years, that the tender of Mr. A. McPherson be accepted for the next three years.

Your committee have considered the petition of Pembroke Chapter, No 58, asking for the remission of dues, and also a duplicate warrant, in place of the one destroyed by fire. From the peculiar circumstances of the case we recommend that the

prayer of the petitioners be granted for a remission of dues to the 31st of May, 1886, and that a duplicate warrant be given to the Chapter free of charge.

Your committee observe that a number of Chapters are in arrears for dues to Grand Chapter for several years, viz. : 23, 26, 28, 35, 41, 45, 46, 71, 74, and recommend that the Grand Superintendent of the districts in which these Chapters are held be instructed to make a special report on the case of each at the next annual convocation of Grand Chapter.

JAMES B. NIXON,
Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

THE CONDITION OF CAPITULAR MASONRY.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry have examined the reports from London, Wilson, Wellington, Hamilton, Huron, Niagara, Toronto, Ontario, Prince Edward, Central, New Brunswick and Manitoba districts, which embraces all sections of Canada under the gavel of this Grand Chapter.

The committee in the perusal of these reports have endeavored to deal with them in a spirit of the kindest criticism, and yet in the faithful discharge of their duties are compelled to state that the reports, in many cases, are not of a satisfactory character. They do not bear evidence of that kindred care in their preparation that should reflect credit on those delegated to rule in a branch of the work, admitted to be the summit and perfection of Ancient Masonry. The reports from Wellington, Hamilton, Huron, Toronto, Central and Manitoba are favorable in tone. Those from London, Ontario, Wilson districts are despondent, while those from Niagara, Prince Edward and New Brunswick are hopeful, and yet when we look around and see the many kindred organizations which tempt with pecuniary benefits, we are not surprised that for a while lethargy should retain a momentary place where for years prosperity held sway.

While our progress may not have been as rapid as we might desire, yet, considering the many organizations referred to, some within the craft circle and others foreign to our mission, we must realize that it is better to advance slowly and surely than hasten a growth that cannot rest on a sure foundation. It should be our aim to see that those who pass our portals seeking the light they cannot elsewhere obtain, should be those who desire to cement the knowledge we impart with what they have gathered in the craft degrees, and thus attain what will not only be of service to them in our Chapters, but in the sphere of life that Providence has placed them—for truly a good Mason—must be a good man. As Royal Craftsmen we are in a position to select our Companions from the great constituency of Freemasonry, with this advantage that those who offer have already been tried by the Council test of the Craft Degrees. Better pause when we hear the alarm for admission than in our anxiety to add to the roll, take those who may be unworthy.

Some of our fathers in Masonry have said that we have too many members and not enough Masons. Let us be warned, and heed those words of wisdom. The study of the art we impart is of such historical and symbolical import that makes it the acme of Craft Masonry, and in this position we alone can complete the structure and give the symbolism of the Master's Degree, that finish which is necessary to its completeness. With the keystone of the Royal Arch we alone can link in an iron bond the moral symbols to be found in either the forest, the quarry or the mountain, representing the great truths which lead us to higher thoughts and impress the mind with purer motives.

An extraordinary apathy apparently exists in London District, where the Grand Superintendent was only able to have seven meetings convened out of thirteen Chapters. In Wilson District only one Chapter out of the four is said to be in working order, and in Toronto District, Seymour Chapter No. 38, Bradford, which we had hoped was revived last year, still sleeps in the silent vale of dormancy. It has not been convened for nearly a year. Macpherson Chapter at Meaford, in the same district, is almost stationary in progress, and could not convene to receive the Grand Superintendent on his official visit. In Prince Edward District, St. Mark's Chapter, No. 26, Trenton, is reported dormant. Toronto, Niagara, Hamilton, New Brunswick and Manitoba seem to be the most

prosperous. In the Central District, Cataraqui Chapter, No. 12, Kingston, has amalgamated with Ancient Frontenac Chapter, No. 1, and in doing this has taken a step that is commendable, and will lead to good results. Carlton, No. 16, Ottawa, and Grenville, No. 22, Prescott, are working zealously to keep up the standard of work. In Pembroke town, Pembroke Chapter, No. 58, is a Chapter that has met with serious reverses. Ten years ago their hall, warrant, regalia, furniture, etc., was burned, and have not met since that unfortunate occurrence. Many of the old Companions desiring to make a fresh start ask Grand Chapter to remit the back dues and grant a duplicate warrant. Your committee think that under the circumstances the remission might be made so as to encourage the old Companions of Pembroke to return to the pleasant reunions of the olden time and join us again in the great work we are all engaged in. Your committee are pleased to note that a long standing dispute, which has marred the progress of Sussex, No. 59, Brockville, has, through the good offices of R. E. Comp. Edwin Plant, G. S., been amicably settled, and peace once more reigns supreme within its portals. The true Masonic spirit shown by Comp. Kearns to Comp. Quigg, justifies the belief there is something in those who have carried the keystone, which tells us that a kindly word spoken in the heat of strife may induce, as it has in this case, a return to their fraternal relations impressed upon us at the altar. Now that this breach of friendship in Sussex has been healed, let it so continue till the end of time. Granite, No. 61, at Almonte, is making favorable progress since its removal from Perth. Maitland, No. 68, at Maitland, has not convened from Oct. 1884, although returns have been sent in and dues paid. While this is satisfactory from a financial standpoint, it is much to be regretted that the esoteric work is not attended to. The Grand Superintendent of Ontario District reports that out of six Chapters three only are in a flourishing condition. He states that Pentalpha, No. 28, at Oshawa, has made no returns since 1880, and that Keystone, No. 35, Whitby, has not reported since 1884, so that both are dormant. He states that as these towns are only a few miles apart, and there are a few good workers in each Chapter, that they should be consolidated. As all efforts on the part of the Grand Superintendent are so far without good results, your committee endorse the recommendation, and suggest that the proper means be taken to bring about the desired end. Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne, is another that is also dormant, no meetings having

been held for several years. The few Companions belonging to the Chapter who do take an interest in the work say that all efforts to revive it have failed, and express a willingness to pay up arrears and surrender the warrant. The Grand Superintendent coincides with this suggestion, and your committee regretfully endorse the recommendation. The Chapters at Peterboro, Cobourg and Port Hope are doing excellent work, adding to the membership craftsmen, worthy of admission, to the secrets of the Royal Art. Your committee note with gratification that the Chapters in our prairie province are doing well and in a flourishing condition. With all the prosperity that has been alluded to, still the current of inertness appears to affect to a certain degree the general advancement, which, however, holds a tendency to increase in Toronto, Hamilton and Manitoba districts.

Your Committee, in view of the information obtained from an examination of the report received, recommend that in London District, where Chapters will not meet, have their charters withdrawn, and that if it is possible, those who are adjacent to one another, will do well to amalgamate. In Wilson District the same course should be followed, and in Toronto District, Seymour Chapter, No. 38, Bradford, should have its warrant withdrawn, and in like manner St. Mark's, No. 26, Trenton, and Maitland Chapter, No. 68, at Maitland, should be dealt with. Your Committee have already referred to the course to be pursued with regard to the Oshawa and Whitby Chapters. The offer of the Companions of Excelsior Chapter, No. 45, Colborne, should be accepted. On general principles all Chapters who do not hold their meetings with regularity should be cited, and those that are dormant struck off the rolls of Grand Chapter, keeping a number of Chapters on the roll that are either sickly, dying or dead, has a despondent effect and fetters our thoughts, when we are trying to improve our minds, and go up higher in our aim to do good.

The duty of visitations has been performed faithfully in all the districts except London, where the efforts of the Grand Superintendent do not seem to have been crowned with success. All the other reports show that the officers in charge have endeavored to do their part in strengthening the fraternal bonds respecting the work brought up for examination. Your Committee desire to draw the attention of Grand Superintendents to the fact that the reports do not convey the information requisite for rendering an impartial opinion on the

state of the Royal Craft, and in view of this fact, your Committee recommend that in future, these district reports should contain

1st. The number of Chapters in the district, and the visits paid to each and the dates.

2nd. The average attendance compared with the actual membership.

3rd. The number of meetings held by each Chapter during the year.

4th. The state of the work, whether uniformity and correctness are preserved, or the reverse.

5th. The number of times the Chapter degrees are worked and the character of the work.

6th. Whether the work is done by P. Z., P. H., P. J., or by the E., Z., H. and J.

7th. The state of the books, including an idea of the gross amount owing in dues, the amounts accruing over one year, two years, three years, etc.

8th. The applications for Chapter degrees, and the number of those brethren who do not come up.

9th. The monetary resources of each Chapter, and the amount of its invested funds.

10th. Whether the Chapters meet in a Hall owned by the Craft, or rented.

11th. The number of Chapters of Instruction, when and where held, with officers who exemplified the work.

Your Committee regret that the reports show large arrearages of dues in the various Chapters, and cannot urge too strongly that the requirements in the constitution of the Grand Chapter and the by-laws of Subordinate Chapters be carried out rigorously, and that delinquents be dealt with on business principles, excepting of course, where through adversity, Companions are unable to pay. The annual amount chargeable for dues is not large, being about a cent a day, or seven cents each week of the year, and surely there is not a Companion who can truthfully state that he cannot afford to pay this small sum. The Chapters are supported by the dues of members, and Grand Chapter has to be supported by these Subordinate Chapters. To do so, dues must be collected, and where Companions are in arrears for years and do not pay, there is but one method of dealing with them By striking off from our roll dormant Chapters, and by

suspending from membership, Companions who pay no heed to summonses. We can restore the roll of Chapters and of membership to a condition of life and vigor that will make it strong in the work and earn for it the esteem of other branches of the craft.

Your committee regret to observe that no Chapters of Instruction have been held and trust that before the next annual convocation an improvement will be made and these useful features will again be introduced.

Your committee trust that the greatest care will be observed in the granting of dispensations for new Chapters.

Your committee see by the report of Ontario District that the Grand Superintendent recommends that the number necessary to form a quorum at Chapter meetings be decreased, on account of the difficulty arising from the non-attendance of Principals. Your committee however cannot approve of the suggestion, which if carried out would require an entire revision of the esoteric work.

From the muster roll of our Chapters we miss old familiar faces. Not a few from this Grand Chapter have been cut down by the sickle of the great reaper, who without regard to age, garners the sheaves oftentimes before the ripened harvest. The memorial tablets speak our sorrow for those of our Companions who rest in the green fields beyond the shining river, awaiting the glad reunion round the golden throne. We mourn the loss of R. E. Comp. Robert Ramsay, of Signet Chapter No. 34, Barrie, and R. E. Comp. John S. Bowen, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who for so many years has maintained the honor of this Grand Chapter near the Grand Chapter of the State of New York. While with us they were generous friends and tried companions. They toiled with us in our labor and were constant and sincere. May we not forget the pleasant hours we spent together and as we carry out our mission may we extend to those our dead have left behind that kindly handed charity taught us in the symbols we exemplify.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J ROSS ROBERTSON,

Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on the condition of Capitular Masonry be received and adopted.

WARRANTS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

Your Committee on Warrants beg leave to report as follows :

Recommend that the dispensation granted to Midland Chapter, Lindsay, July 6th, 1886, be continued until the next meeting of Grand Chapter.

Your Committee have had under consideration a petition from a number of Companions, at present residing at Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, a few of whom were formerly under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada, Your Committee would recommend that a warrant be at once granted to the applicants, in order that our Fellow Colonists and Companions may be enabled to advance the Royal Craft in that distant colony ; and more especially as they appeal to us for encouragement, advice and assistance.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. G. REID.

Chairman.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. G. Reid, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Executive Committee on Warrants be received and adopted.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Executive Committee beg to report on Grievances and Appeals, as follows :

Re. R. Ex. Comp W. Kerr, vs. R. Ex. Comp. John Moore.

The charges in this case were originally heard in Carleton Chapter, No. 16, and an action was taken in Grand Chapter at last annual convocation. (See Proceedings 1885, page 119.)

The following is a portion of the report at that time adopted by Grand Chapter :

A trial was had in Carleton Chapter, No. 16. which appears to have been regularly conducted, and resulted in the suspension of R. Ex. Comp. John Moore, and his expulsion asked for,

and no appeal from the action of the Chapter has been received from Comp. Moore.

It is therefore recommended that R. Ex. Comp. Moore be summoned to attend the next annual convocation of the Grand Chapter to show cause why he should not be expelled.

Companion Moore has been summoned to appear at this Grand Chapter by summons served on the 23 day of June last.

Comp. Moore has not appeared himself, but has sent a communication in which he objected to the shortness of the time given him, and also alleges other reasons against his expulsion.

The Committee are of opinion that the time given was sufficient, and that his other arguments against expulsion are insufficient and such as would have been heard at his original trial.

On the representation, however, of certain R. E. Companions, that if this matter is postponed until the next convocation, there is a probability that restitution may be made to the injured parties. Your Committee recommend that this case be postponed until next convocation, and that he be summoned to appear at the next annual convocation to show cause why he should not be expelled from the privileges of Capitular Masonry.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY MACPHERSON,
Chair. Sub. Com. Grievances and Appeals

July 15th 1886.

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson, P. G. Z., and

Resolved, That the Report of the Executive Committee on Grievances and Appeals be adopted.

BE NEVOLENCE.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Executive Committee of the Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of Canada, on Benevolence, beg leave to report :

That the three private Chapters, viz., Ancient Frontenac, No. 1, McCallum, No. 29, and Mount Sinai, No. 44, through whose First Principal grants of benevolence were made payable, as granted in July, 1885, have made proper returns of the same, and that the sums raised by local contribution and

expended for local relief are as follows : No. 29, \$10, and No. 44, \$10.

That eight applications for relief have been presented by private Chapters on behalf of widows and Companions, and that the committee recommend that grants for the same, from the funds of benevolence of Grand Chapter, be made as follows :

No.	Name of Grantee.	Amt	Through Whom Payable.
1	Widow of Thomas D. Harington	\$ 40	First Principal, Frontenac 1, Kingston.
2	" " Samuel Waltho.....	20	" " McCallum 29, Dunnville,
3	Comp. Archibald Couper.....	50	" " " "
4	Widow Rachel McLeod.....	20	" " Huron 30, Goderich.
5	" Sarah McPhail.....	40	" " " "
6	" Mary Ann Bartlett	20	" " Mount Sinai 44, Napanee.
7	" Agnes A. Cheetham	20	" " " "
8	" of Robert Ramsay.....	20	" " Signet 34, Barrie.
		\$230	

It was moved by R. E. Comp. Robt. Hendry, jr., seconded by R. E. Comp. Otto Klotz, and

Resolved, That the report of the Executive Committee on Benevolence be received and adopted.

ON THE GRAND Z's ADDRESS.

To the Most Excellent the Grand Z., Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Executive Committee have examined, with much care, the able address of the M. Ex. the Grand Z., and bear testimony to the zeal with which he has discharged the duties of his high office.

They regret to learn that the Royal Craft has not made such advancement during the past year as could have been desired, and sincerely hope that by the adoption of Chapters of Instruction, as recommended by the M. Ex. the Grand Z., new energy will be infused into the Chapters with beneficial results.

The amalgamation of the two Chapters at Kingston will, we feel assured, strengthen and improve Royal Arch Masonry in the Limestone city.

The exchange of representatives by several Grand Chapters of the United States and this Grand Chapter, will tend to perpetuate the friendship and kindly feeling which so happily exists between this Grand Chapter and those of the United States.

They recommend that Grand Chapter approve of the nominations.

R. Ex. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Dakota, and Comp. Hugh Murray as the representative of the Grand Chapter of Washington territory. As our esteemed Comp. Hugh. Murray is not a member of Grand Chapter. They respectfully recommend that the rank of a Past Z. be conferred upon him. They feel assured that Grand Chapter in conferring that high honor upon so distinguished a craftsman as the immediate Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada will do honor to itself. They are gratified to learn that the Grand Z. has been enabled to make so many official visits, as such visits cannot but have a most beneficial effect upon the Chapters visited.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

DANIEL SPRY,
Chairman.

It was moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., seconded by M. E. Comp. Fred J. Menet, P. G. Z., and

Resolved, That the Report of the Executive Committee on the M. Ex. Grand Z's address be received and adopted.

The following Companions presented their credentials, and were severally greeted with the usual Masonic salutations which were suitably acknowledged by them.

R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford, London, Grand Chapter of Dakota.

Comp. Hugh Murray, Hamilton, Grand Chapter Washington Territory.

The rank of P. Z. having been conferred upon Comp. Hugh Murray by the adoption of the Report of the Executive Committee, on the M. E., the Grand Z's. address. The M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to appoint the Grand Superintendent of the Hamilton District, and the Grand Treasurer, a committee to have the degrees of the three chairs conferred on the said Companion in accordance therewith.

In accordance with notice given at the last Annual Convocation by R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, it was moved by him, seconded by E. Comp. John S. Dewar, and

Resolved, That Clause 65 of the Book of Constitution be amended by striking out the words "Unless he be an Installed Master or Past Master of a Regular Lodge, nor"

R. E. Comp. Wm. G. Reid moved, seconded by R. E. Comp. Richard Radcliffe, and

Resolved, That the Clause on page 12 of the Constitution in reference to the election of Grand Superintendents be amended by inserting on the first line after the word "representatives" and before the word "of" the following words "and Past First Principals."

R. E. Comp. R. B. Hungerford moved, seconded by R. E. Comp. David Trotter,

That the London District be divided as follows: The Counties of Middlesex, Elgin and Lambton to constitute the London District. The Counties of Essex and Kent to constitute a new district to be named the St. Clair District.

It was moved in amendment by R. E. Comp. John Creasor, and seconded by R. E. Comp. John E. Harding, that to the motion be added the words, "a committee be appointed to bring in a general scheme of re-distribution." On the vote being taken the amendment was declared Lost, and the original motion CARRIED.

R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, moved, seconded by M. E. Comp. Fred J. Menet, and

Resolved, That Clause 1, page 11, in the last paragraph in reference to the members of the Grand Chapter, after Past Z. the words, "H and J" be expunged.

M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson moved, seconded by M. E. Comp. Fred J. Menet, that the Constitution be amended by inserting after Section 79 the following:

"79 A. 1st, Private Chapters may, by by-law, admit their members to life membership, on such terms as such Chapters may determine, and for each such life member such Chapter may pay into the Grand Chapter the sum of (\$2) two dollars, which payment shall exempt the Chapter from the payment of further dues to Grand Chapter on his behalf.

2nd. Upon such life member withdrawing from the Chapter of which he originally became a life member and joining any other Chapter, such other Chapter shall not be obliged to pay any annual dues to Grand Chapter on his account, nor in case he becomes a life member of such other Chapter, shall it be obliged to pay a second fee therefor to Grand Chapter.

3rd. Life members shall be entitled to all the privileges of

and shall be amenable to discipline in the same manner as ordinary members."

Moved in amendment by R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, and seconded by R. E. Comp. Wm. Forbes, That the word "three" be substituted in place of "two," and the motion so amended be adopted. On the vote being taken the amendment was declared LOST and the original motion CARRIED.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Grand Scribes acting as scrutineers of the ballot.

The following named Companions were declared duly elected :—

M. E. Comp.	Thos. Sargant, Toronto,	} Re-elected	Grand Z.
R. E. "	Robert Hendry, jr., Kingston,		" H.
" "	R. B. Hungerford, London.		" J.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor to refreshment at 1 p. m.

The Grand Chapter resumed labor at 1.30 p.m.

PRESENT.

M. E. Comp.	Thos. Sargant,	Grand Z.	} <i>On the Throne.</i>
R. E. "	Robert Hendry, jr.,	" H.	
" "	R. B. Hungerford,	" J.	

Grand Officers, Members and Representatives.

The following Companions were nominated by the representatives from the respective districts and approved by the M. E. Grand Z. as

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Peter A. Craig, Windsor,	St. Clair	District.
V. E. "	S. S. Clutton, Aylmer,	London	"
R. E. "	C. L. Beard, Woodstock,	Wilson	"
R. E. "	Wm. Cowan, Galt (re-elected)	Wellington	"
V. E. "	Hy. Bickford, Dundas,	Hamilton	"
R. E. "	DeWitt H. Martyn, Kincardine,		
	re-elected.	Huron	"
V. E. Comp.	John M. Clement, Niagara,	Niagara	"
E. "	Seymour Porter, Toronto,	Toronto	"
R. E. "	J. B. Traves, P. Hope (re-el'd)	Ontario	"
E. "	J. J. Farley, Belleville,	P. Edward	"
R. E. "	Edwin Plant, Ottawa (re-el'd),	Central	"
E. "	Wm. J. Logan, St. John,	N. Brunswick	"
E. "	John Kerr, Brydon, Rat Port'e	Manitoba	"

The election of officers was then continued with the following result :—

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan, Hamilton, (re-ele'd)	Grand S. E.
V. E. "	Jas. D. Christie, Chatham,	" S. N.
V. E. "	Joseph Beck, Saltford,	" P. S.
R. E. "	E. Mitchell, Hamilton (re-elected)	" Treas.
V. E. "	John A. Wills, Toronto,	" Reg.

And by an open vote of Grand Chapter Comp. John Grant, of Brockville, Grand Janitor.

The following named Companions were elected members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year :—

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson	- - -	Collingwood.
" "	John Creasor,	- - -	Owen Sound.
" "	James B. Nixon	- - -	Toronto.
" "	John Ross Robertson	- - -	"
E. "	John S. Dewar	- - -	London.

The following named Companions compose the Committee on Benevolence and are members of the Executive Committee for the following terms :—

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry	retires in	- - -	1887
R. E. "	Otto Klotz	"	- - -	1888
" "	J. J. Mason	"	- - -	1889

R. E. Comp. Peter A. Craig, of Windsor, on behalf of the Mayor and Council of the town, then presented the following

ADDRESS OF WELCOME :

To the Grand Z and other Officers and the Members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada

SIRS,—The Municipal Council of this town extend to you all a hearty welcome to Windsor.

We recognise in you, Sirs, the trusted and honored representatives of a large and highly respectable portion of the people of the Dominion of which we are so proud ; and as such we welcome you to our midst.

As to the objects and aims, or the peculiar character of the Ancient Order over the destinies of which you, Grand Officers, and to which you, Delegates, belong, we have, as public men, no right to know nor to take cognizance of at this time ; and the only motive that prompts us to make this address is that we may show that, as a people embracing within our numbers men of every shade of religious and political opinion, we are most happy to have among us gentlemen such as we know you must be—Loyal Canadians, as all Canadians are—whatever be

the purpose of their coming, and whether or not their visit be a prolonged one.

We trust, respected Sirs, that you will experience pleasure in your visit to our little frontier town, that your labors here will be followed by eminently satisfactory results to your Order, and that you may carry away with you to your homes none but agreeable memories of your brief sojourn in this the most southerly part of our great country.

On behalf of the Town Council,

STEPHEN LUSTED,
Town Clerk.

SAMUEL BLANNING,
RICHARD BANGHAM,
J.^r ROCHELEAU,
JAMES CARNEY,
ALEX. NAPIER,

JOSEPH H. BEATTIE,
Mayor.

CHAS. C. FOX,
GEORGE BARTLET,
JAMES ANDERSON
B. G. DAVIS,
SAMUEL DUPUIS.

To which the M. E. Grand Z. made the following

REPLY :

To Joseph H. Beattie, Esq., Mayor, and Members of the Town Council
of Windsor.

SIRS,—It affords me pleasure on behalf of the officers and members of the Grand Chapter of Canada, to accept the address which has just been presented to us in Grand Chapter, and I can say on my own behalf and the whole of the Craft, that we highly appreciate the kind remarks and generous wishes contained in the said address.

Believe me, and I know I speak for all the brethren who have partaken of your hospitality, that we will carry away with us pleasant memories of our visit to Windsor. We have, indeed, had a happy and enjoyable time, and trust that we may again be permitted to visit your town and exchange those sentiments of good and kindly intercourse which has been our happy lot to enjoy this visit.

As Canadians we are proud of belonging to an institution which recognizes neither creed, race, nor politics, and hope that this Canada of ours may enjoy that share of prosperity which it has ever been the good fortune to those who have determined to stand by the dear country which has given birth to a large number of us.

I thank you again for your many kindnesses, and trust that you, gentlemen, may be long spared to represent the towns-

people, and serve them with that efficiency which I have no doubt you have done in the past.

On behalf of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

THOS. SARGANT,
Grand Z.

[SEAL].

DAVID McLELLAN,
Grand Scribe E.

M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, G. Z., assisted by M. E. Comps. Fred. J. Menet, Daniel Spry, Donald Ross and Henry Macpherson, then proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers who were proclaimed with the usual Masonic ceremony.

M. E. Comp. Thos. Sargent, Grand Z., was then pleased to appoint the following Companions as members of the Executive Committee for the ensuing year, viz.,

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	.	.	.	.	London.
"	"	Wm. Forbes,	.	.	.	Grimsby.
"	"	Wm. Gibson,	.	.	.	Beamsville.
"	"	Wm. G. Reid,	.	.	.	Hamilton.
E.	"	S. G. Fairtlough,	.	.	.	Kingston.

At a subsequent date the M. E. Grand Z., was pleased to notify the Grand Scribe E. of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz.,

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

E. Comp.	John S. Dewar,	London,	Grand	1st Asst. Soj.
"	"	John Waring,	Picton,	" 2nd "
"	"	Elias T. Malone,	Toronto,	" Sword Bear'r.
"	"	S. G. Fairtlough,	Kingston,	" M. of Veils.
"	"	H. J. M. Wilson,	Toronto,	" Stan'd Bea'r.
"	"	W. S. S. Jackson,	"	" Dir. of Cer.
"	"	Jas. M. Dunn,	Welland,	" Organist.
"	"	Geo. J. Bennett,	Parkdale,	" Pursuivant.
"	"	Walter Paterson, jr.	Peterboro,	" Steward.
"	"	James A. Malcolm,	Hamilton,	" "
"	"	Nathaniel Greening,	Dundas,	" "
"	"	Adam Borngasser,	Sharon,	" "

The M. E. Grand Z. directed that each Companion elected or appointed to office, not having presented himself for installation or investiture, is to be installed or invested in the Chapter of which he is a member.

MOTIONS.

Moved by R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, seconded by V. E. Comp. J. D. Christie, and

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter are due and hereby tendered to the M. E. Grand Chapter of Nebraska for a handsomely bound copy of their proceedings for the years 1878 to 1882 inclusive.

Moved by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., and seconded by M. E. Comp. Donald Ross, P. G. Z., and

Resolved, That the M. E., the G. Z. do appoint a committee to have printed a new edition of the ceremonies of Royal Arch Masonry, with a series of questions or catechism to be answered by candidates for the several degrees in Royal Arch Masonry, and that in no case shall a candidate be advanced till he is proficient in the former degrees.

Moved by E. Comp. John S. Dewar, seconded by R. E. Comp. James B. Nixon, and

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to the Companions of Ark Chapter, No. 80, of Windsor, for arrangements made by and courtesies received from them during the holding of this Grand Convocation.

Moved by M. E. Comp. Fred. J. Menet, P. G. Z., seconded by Ex. Comp. Comp. W. S. Robinson, and

Resolved, That Antiquity Chapter, No. 91, Parkdale, be Masonically included in the City of Toronto.

Moved by R. E. Comp. John Ross Robertson, seconded by M. E. Comp. Daniel Spry, P. G. Z., and

Resolved, That the Grand Scribe E. be instructed to procure copies of the Masonic map, as drafted for Grand Lodge, for the use of members of Grand Chapter.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The following notices of motion for next Annual Convocation were given, viz.:

By R. E. Comp. Isaac F. Toms, Goderich,—

I give notice that at the next Annual Convocation I will move that Article 9 of the Constitution be amended so as to provide that the Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter be held on the second Wednesday in January, at such place as may be decided upon by Grand Chapter.

By R. E. Comp. De Witt H. Martyn, Kincardine,—

I give notice that I will at next Annual Convocation move to amend Sec. xciv, by inserting after the words Scribe E., at the end of the fourth line, the words “unless by dispensation from the Grand Z.”

By R. E. Comp. John Kerr Brydon, Rat Portage.

I give notice that at the next annual convocation of Grand Chapter, I will move

That Shuniah Chapter, No. 82, Port Arthur, be detached from Huron District and added to the Manitoba District.

The M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to appoint the following committee to have printed the new edition of the Ceremonies.

M. E. Comp.	Daniel Spry,	P. G. Z.	Barrie,	<i>Chairman.</i>
“	“	Fred. J. Menet,	P. G. Z.	Toronto.
“	“	Donald Ross,	P. G. Z.	Picton.
“	“	Thomas Sargent,	G. Z.	Toronto.

The labors of Grand Chapter being ended, it was closed in *Ample Form* at 2.30 p. m



David M. Lellan.

GRAND SCRIBE E.

WINDSOR, 16th July, A. I. 2416, A. D. 1886.

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS ACCORDING TO LAST RETURNS.

NAME.	WHERE HELD,	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
1 An. Fron & Catarqui	Kingston.....C	Third Wednesday of every month.	Geo. M. Wilkinson	W. S. Smyth
2 The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....H	1st Monday every m th except July & Aug	C. W. Mulligan....	W. J. Grant.
3 St. John's.....	London.....L	4th Wed. in every month.....	Jos. Hook.....	Jno. Siddons.
4 St. Andrew & St. John	Toronto.....T	Third Friday of every month.....	John Ritchie.....	Thos. Hills.
5 St. George's.....	London.....L	Third Tuesday in every month.....	Edward Burke.....	Chas. C. Reed.
6 St. John's.....	Hamilton.....H	2nd Thurs. every m th except July & Aug	J. A. Malcolm....	C. W. W. Fielding.
7 Moira.....	Belleville...P. E	First Tuesday of every month.....	J. J. Farley.....	P. C. Jones.
8 King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....T	First Wednesday of every month.....	George Clarke....	John Akers.
10 New Brunswick.....	St. John.....N. B	First Thursday of every month.....	A. R. Campbell..	D. S. Stewart.
11 St. Mark's.....	St. Andrews..N. B	Second Thursday of every month.....	Thomas Armstrong.	T. Rudolph Wren.
15 Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....L	2nd Friday in Jan., April, July & Oct.	James Wood.....	Chas. B. Johnston
16 Carleton.....	Ottawa.....C	Third Thursday of every month.....	J. D. Wallis.....	W. H. Morgan.
18 Oxford.....	Woodstock...W	Third Friday of every month.....	James Sutherland..	James Wilson.
19 Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines..N	Friday on or before f. moon of every m th	J. E. Beeton.....	George Burch.
20 Mount Horeb.....	Brantford...W	First Wednesday of every month.....	Wm. Watt, jr.....	David Curtis.
22 Grenville.....	Prescott.....C	Second Tuesday in every month.....	John Carruthers...	M. Dowsley.
23 Ezra.....	Simcoe.....W	Second Wednesday of every month.....	John E. Harding..	I. Baker.
24 Tecumseh.....	Stratford...H. N	Last Tuesday of every month.....	Henry Robertson..	Frank B. Gregory.
26 St. Mark's.....	Trenton P. E	Second Wed. of every month.....	W. N. Braund....	Louis A. Congdon
27 Manitou.....	Collingwood...T	First Friday of every month.....	Isaac F. Toms....	Henry Clucas.
28 Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....O	Second Friday of every month.....	John H. Murney	Donald Ross.
29 McCallum.....	Dunville.....N	Friday on or after full moon.....	John Shupe.....	James M. Hood.
30 Huron.....	Goderich...H. N	Third Tuesday of every month.....	William Downie...	Robert R. Holt.
31 Prince Edward.....	Picton...P. E	Monday on or after full moon.....		
32 Waterloo.....	Galt.....W. N	Second Monday of every month.....		
34 Signet.....	Barrie.....T	Second Tuesday of every month.....		
35 Keystone.....	Whitby.....O	Third Thursday of every month.....		

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.—Continued.

NO.	NAME.	WHERE HELD.	NIGHT OF MEETING.	FIRST PRINCIPAL Z.	SCRIBE E.
36	Corinthian	Peterboro. . . O	Third Tuesday of every month	B. Shortly	Chas. Cameron
37	Victoria	Port Hope	O Second Thursday of every month	G. B. Salter	W. B. Wallace
38	Seymour	Bradford	T Friday on or before f moon of every m th . . . . .	.....	.....
39	Botsford	Moncton . N. B	T Third Monday of every month . . . . .	.....	.....
40	Guelph	Guelph	W Second Friday of every month	Alex Bruce	R. Gemmell,
41	Harris	Ingersoll	W First Tuesday after f moon of every m th . . . . .	.....	.....
44	Mount Sinai	Napanee . P. E	W Wednesday after full moon	C. Z. Perry	J. H. Flynn
45	Excelsior	Colborne	O First Thursday of every month . . . . .	.....	.....
46	St. James	St. Mary's. . HN	O Second Wednesday of every month . . . . .	.....	.....
47	Wellington	Chatham. . St. C	O Second Thursday of every month	W. L. Tackaberry	James Birch
48	St. John's	Cobourg	O Friday on or before f moon of every m th	D. McNaughton.	J. G. Orr
49	Elora	Elora	W Wed. on or after f moon of every month	T. P. Smith	W Gay
52	Prince Rupert	Winnipeg . . M	M First Thursday of every month	C. F. Forrest	Thomas Nixon, jr
53	Bruce	Petrolia	L First Thurs day in each month	Robert Scott	James W. Ford
54	Palestine	St Thomas . . L	L Second Thursday in the month	W. E. Ilsardi	H. Kirkland
55	Niagara	Niagara	N Thursday after full moon	Robert Shearer	Thomas N. Ball
56	Georgian	Owen Sound. T	T Third Tuesday of every month	Robert Edgar	H. P. Adair
57	King Hiram	Pt. Colborne N	N First Thursday of every month	J. B. Neff	Charles Lugsdin
58	Pembroke	Pembroke . . C	C First Monday of every month . . . . .	.....	.....
59	Sussex	Brockville . . C	C Friday on o before f moon of every m th	George Gale	C. H. Fitzsimmons
60	Doric	Newmarket . T	T First Wednesday in month	A. Borngasser	W. A. Ewing
61	Ganite	Almonte	C Second Monday of every month	J. M. Munro	Ralph Hill
62	York	Eglington	T Thursday on or after f moon . . . . .	.....	.....
63	Havelock	Kincardine. HN	HN Third Thursday in each month	B. Freer	James S. Greenhill
64	Willson	Welland	N Last Wednesday of every month	I. P. Willson	M. W. Bridgman
65	St. Paul's	Toronto	T Second Wednesday of every month	C. W. Postlethwaite	C. P. Sparling
66	The Malloch	Clinton . . . HN	HN Friday before f moon of every month	D. M. Malloch	W. F. Murray

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JUNE 30, 1886.

NO	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURNS.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CR'DIT
1	Ancient Frontenac & Catarqui	Kingston.....	A. D. 1795..	.....	May 31, 1886	.....	.....
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	" 1820..	.....	" 1886	.....	13 00
3	St. John's.....	London.....	" 1844..	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
4	St Andrew and St John's.	Toronto.....	" 1847..	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
5	St George's.....	London.....	" 1854..	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	" 1855..	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
7	Moir.....	Belleville.....	" 1856..	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	" 1857..	 1886	" 1885	.....	.....
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	Feb 24, 1859.	 1886	" 1885	.....	.....
11	St. Mark's.....	St Andrew, N. B.....	Sept 1846..	.....	" 1886	0 20	.....
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	Feb 8, 1860.	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	"	 1886	" 1885	.....	.....
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	Feb 21, 1861	 1886	" 1885	.....	.....
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	Feb 20, 1862	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	"	 1883-4-5-6	Jan 31, 1882	19 00	.....
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	Aug 11, 1863	.....	May 31, 1886	.....	.....
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	Aug 14, 1866	1874 to 1886 inclu ive	Jan 31, 1873	.....	.....
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	.....	.....
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	Aug 13, 1867	 1885-6	" 1884	.....	.....
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	"	 1886	" 1885	.....	.....
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
31	Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	Aug 11, 1868	.....	" 1886	.....	2 00
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	Aug 11, 1868	.....	May 31, 1886	.....	.....

34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	Aug 10, 1869	.....	May 31, 1886	.....
35	Keystone.....	Whitby.....	"	1881-2-3-4-5-6	Jan 31, 1880	9 10
36	Corinthian.....	Peterboro'.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	0 60
37	Victoria.....	Port Hope.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	.....
38	Seymour.....	Bradford.....	Aug 10, 1870	 1886	May 31, 1885	.....
39	Botsford.....	Moncton, N. B.....	"	 1886	Jan 31, 1885	.....
40	Guelph.....	Guelph.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	.....
41	Harris.....	Ingersoll.....	"	 1883-4-5-6	Jan 31, 1882	.....
44	Mount Sinai.....	Napanee.....	Aug 9, 1871	.....	May 31, 1886	.....
45	Excelsior.....	Colborne.....	"	1881-2-3-4-5-6	Jan 31, 1880	13 60
46	St. James.....	St. Mary's.....	"	1874 to 1886 inclusive	Jan 31, 1873	2 75
47	Wellington.....	Chatham.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	.....
48	St. John's.....	Cobourg.....	Aug 14, 1872	.....	.....	0 20
49	Elora.....	Elora.....	"	.....	.....	.....
52	Prince Rupert's.....	Winnipeg.....	"	 1886	.....	.....
53	Bruce.....	Petrollea.....	"	.....	.....	.....
54	Palestine.....	St. Thomas.....	Aug 13, 1873	.....	.....	.....
55	Niagara.....	Niagara.....	"	.....	.....	.....
56	Georgian.....	Owen Sound.....	"	.....	.....	.....
57	King Hiram.....	Port Colborne.....	Aug 14, 1874	.....	.....	.....
58	Pembroke.....	Pembroke.....	"	1876 to 1886 inclusive	Jan 31, 1875	10 00
59	Sussex.....	Brockville.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	.....
60	Doric.....	Newmarket.....	"	.....	.....	.....
61	Granite.....	Almonte.....	Aug 14, 1874	.....	May 31, 1886	0 60
62	York.....	Eglington.....	"	 1885 6	.....	0 25
63	Havelock.....	Kincardine.....	"	 1886	.....	.....
64	Willson.....	Welland.....	Aug 11, 1875	.....	.....	.....
65	St. Paul's.....	Toronto.....	"	.....	.....	.....
66	The Malloch.....	Clinton.....	"	.....	.....	20 10
67	Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	"	.....	.....	.....
68	Maitland.....	Maitland.....	"	 1885-6	May 31, 1886	.....
69	Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	"	.....	.....	.....

BALANCES IN LEDGER, JUNE 30TH, 1886—Continued.

NO	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	WARRANT GRANTED.	NO RETURNS.	LAST RETURNS.	AM'T THEN DUE.	CRDIT.
70	Grand River.....	Berlin.....	Aug 9, 1876	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
71	Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	"	1884-5-6	Jan 31, 1883	5 60	.....
73	Erie.....	Ridgetown.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
74	Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	"	1884-5-6	" 1883	.....	.....
75	St. Clair.....	Milton.....	"	.....	May 31, 1886	.....	.....
76	Mount Nebo.....	Niagara Falls South.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
77	Occident.....	Toronto.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
78	Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....	Aug 8, 1877	 1886	" 1885	.....	.....
79	Orient.....	Toronto.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
80	Ark.....	Windsor.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
81	Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	Aug 14, 1878	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
82	Shuniah.....	Port Arthur.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
83	Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
84	Lebanon.....	Wingham.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
85	Exeter.....	Exeter.....	Aug 12, 1879	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
86	Macpherson.....	Meaford.....	July 16, 1886	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
87	Wentworth.....	Dundas.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
88	Macnab.....	Dresden.....	"	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
89	Woodstock.....	Woodstock, N. B.....	July 14, 1882	 1886	" 1885	2 00	.....
90	Golden.....	Rat Portage.....	July 13, 1883	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
91	Antiquity.....	Parkdale.....	July 11, 1884	.....	" 1886	.....	.....
92	Spry.....	Alliston.....	July 10, 1885	.....	" 1886	.....	.....

TABULAR STATEMENT EXTRACTED FROM THE RETURNS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1886.

NO.	NAME OF CHAPTER.	PLACE OF MEETING.	No. of Admis- sions.	No. of Join- ings.	Restr'd.	With- drawals.	Suspen- sions.	Expeld	Deaths.	No. of Mem bs
1	Ancient Frontenac & Calaraqui	Kingston.....	1	.....	2	4	15	.....	1	97
2	The Hiram.....	Hamilton.....	17	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	1	219
3	St. John's.....	London.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	3	85
4	St Andrew, and St John.	Toronto.....	4	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	1	100
5	St George's.....	London.....	1	.....	.....	3	1	.....	2	77
6	St. John's.....	Hamilton.....	4	2	.....	5	.....	.....	2	185
7	Moira.....	Belleville.....	2	.....	.....	9	4	.....	1	87
8	King Solomon's.....	Toronto.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	143
10	New Brunswick.....	St. John, N. B.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	94
11	St. Mark's.....	St Andrew, N. B.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
15	Wawanosh.....	Sarnia.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	.....	2	46
16	Carleton.....	Ottawa.....	4	2	.....	2	1	.....	1	74
18	Oxford.....	Woodstock.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
19	Mount Moriah.....	St. Catharines.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
20	Mount Horeb.....	Brantford.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	35
22	Grenville.....	Prescott.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	33
23	Ezra.....	Simcoe.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
24	Tecumseh.....	Stratford.....	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	36
26	St. Mark's.....	Trenton.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
27	Manitou.....	Collingwood.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	27
28	Pentalpha.....	Oshawa.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30
29	McCallum.....	Dunnville.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	63
30	Huron.....	Goderich.....	2	.....	2	3	.....	.....	.....	53
31	Prince Edward.....	Pictou.....	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	51
32	Waterloo.....	Galt.....	1	.....	.....	3	2	.....	.....	30
34	Signet.....	Barrie.....	3	1	.....	4	9	.....	1	44

65 St. Paul's.....	Toronto.....	9	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	54
66 The Malloch.....	Clinton.....	7	I	.....	2	.....	.....	I	33
67 Enterprise.....	Harriston.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	I	31
68 Maitland.....	Maitland.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
69 Grimsby.....	Grimsby.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
70 Grand River.....	Berlin.....	I	.....	.....	.....	I	.....	I	23
71 Prince of Wales.....	Amherstburg.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
73 Erie.....	Ridgetown.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	I3
74 Beaver.....	Strathroy.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
75 St. Clair.....	Milton.....	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	30
76 Mount Nebo.....	Niagara Falls South	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
77 Occident.....	Toronto.....	5	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	76
78 Minnewawa.....	Park Hill.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
79 Orient.....	Toronto.....	4	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	I	64
80 Ark.....	Windsor.....	8	I	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	55
81 Aylmer.....	Aylmer.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	29
82 Shuniah.....	Port Arthur.....	5	I	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	32
83 Ionic.....	Orangeville.....	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	27
84 Lebanon.....	Wingham.....	.....	.....	I	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
85 Exeter.....	Exeter.....	.....	.....	.....	I	.....	.....	.....	28
86 Macpherson.....	Meaford.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
87 Wentworth.....	Dundas.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	I	46
88 Macnabb.....	Dresden.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
89 Woodstock.....	Woodstock, N. B.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
90 Golden.....	Kat Portage.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
91 Antiquity.....	Parkdale.....	4	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	21
92 Spry.....	Alliston.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
		148	17	7	103	92	31	3658	

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Chapters on Roll.....	79
“ “ “ Represented in Grand Chapter.....	57
“ “ Registrations Reported.....	148
“ “ Joinings “.....	17
“ “ Restorations “.....	7
“ “ Withdrawals “.....	103
“ “ Suspensions “.....	92
“ “ Deaths “.....	31
“ “ Expulsions “.....	0
Total number of members on Roll of Grand Chapter.....	3658
Total amount of Receipts, 1885-6.....	\$1879 19

SUSPENSIONS.

NON-PAYMENT OF DUES.

No. 1. Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui Chapter, Kingston.

Allen, W.,	Grass, M. H.,
Creggan, Geo.,	Pollock, J. M.,
Gillam, H. A.,	Thompson, J. D.,
Lamb, W.,	Booth, A. P.,
Reid, W. D.,	Brown, A.,
Bawden, H.,	Fraser, S.,
Gordon, Thos.,	Ross, T. K.,
	Tandy, H.

No. 3. St. John's Chapter, London.

Howie, Wm.,

No. 5. St. George's Chapter, London.

Ball, George B.

No. 7. Moria Chapter, Belleville.

Graham, Peter,	McDavitt, Groash,
Landsberg, Jacob,	McDavitt, Charles.

No. 15. Wawanosh Chapter, Sarnia.

Masson, George,	Reynolds, Wm.,
Salter, G. J. R.,	Leslie, Geo.,
Parkinson, Thos.,	Armour, Robert,
Tracey, John,	Oliver, Walter,
Godkin, Benj.,	McGarvey, W. H.,
McIntyre, Jos. M.,	Wood, J. H.,
McDonald, Duncan,	Manly, R. F.,
Taylor, George,	Blakely, Jos.,
Davis, John,	Jones, John R.
Shields, John,	

No. 16.	Carleton Chapter, Ottawa. Christie, T. N. E.	
No. 27.	Vaniteu Chapter, Collingwood. Foley, Frank A.	
No. 32.	Waterloo Chapter, Galt.	
McIntyre Robert,	|	Mellish, Robt.
No. 34.	Signet Chapter, Barrie.	
Anderton, Joseph,	|	Farquarson, D.,
Bingham, Wesley,	|	Forbes, Carlo,
Cossins, R. H.,	|	Lount, Wm.,
Edwards, E. H.,	|	Stein, Robt.,
	|	Smith, F. A.
No. 40.	Guelph Chapter, Guelph.	
Peterson, Henry W.,	|	Little, Wm. J.
Tawse, Wm. D.	|	
No. 48.	St. John's Chapter, Cobourg. Fleming James Doak.	
No. 49.	Elora Chapter, Elora.	
Aldridge, Jos.,	|	Richardson, H.,
Arkle, J.,	|	Smith, W. T.,
Elliott, Wm,	|	Smith, Jno.,
Linn, Walter,	|	Stewart, A.,
Phillips, S.,	|	Young, Chas.
No. 55.	Niagara Chapter, Niagara. Brown, Henry James.	
No. 60.	Doric Chapter, Newmarket.	
Foote, Frederick Henry Nassau,	|	Nicholson, Francis.
No. 63.	Havelock Chapter, Kincardine. McKinnon, Dougald.	
No. 70.	Grand River Chapter, Berlin. Hunt, Henry.	
No. 75.	St. Clair Chapter, Milton.	
Burkholder, Isaac C.,	|	Cook, Samuel,
Elliott, Stephen,	|	Miller, James,
	|	Robertson, Duncan C.
No. 79.	Orient Chapter, Toronto.	
Cudlipp, J.,	|	Mead, J. H.,
Ferguson, D.,	|	Mullin, J. J.,
Fleming, J.,	|	Moore, T. D.,
Hart, J. M.,	|	Sheppard, C.,
Law, W. A.,	|	Kaiser, Joshua.

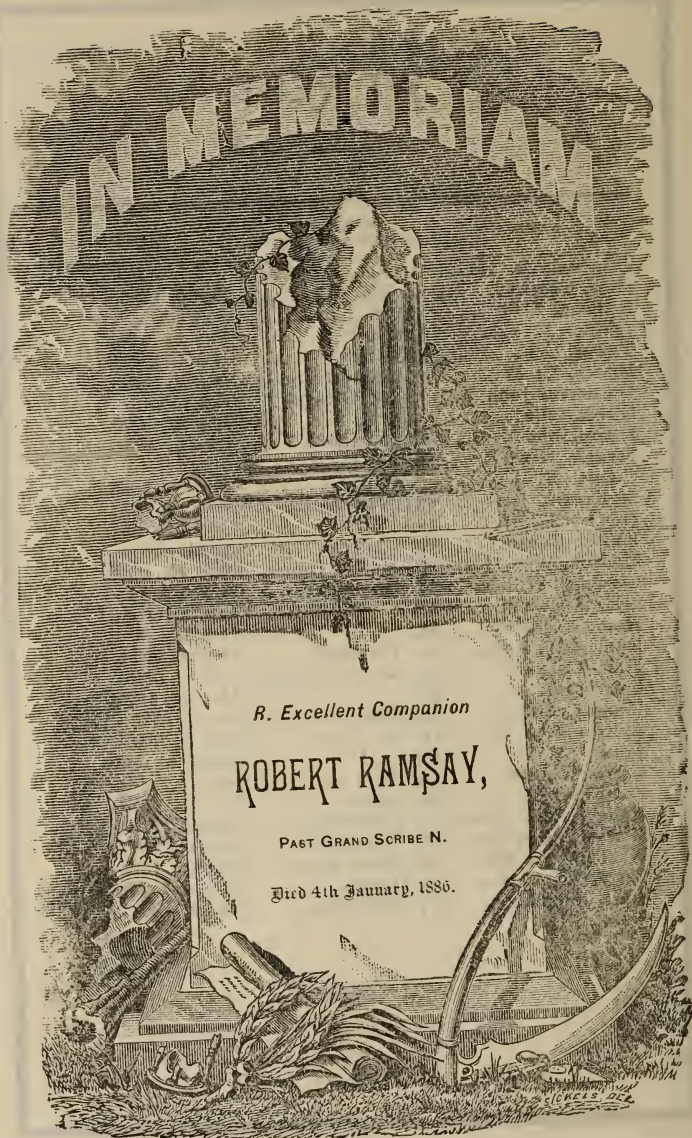
No. 80.	Ark Chapter, Windsor.	
Ayres George,		Boath Wm. S,
Brooks, Richard O,		Ferguson, William.

RESTORATIONS.

No. 12.	Cataraqui Chapter, Kingston.	
	Bawden, H.	
No. 30.	Huron Chapter, Goderich.	
Rhynas, Robt.,		Worthington, A.
No. 44.	Mount Sinai Chapter, Napanee.	
Betts, L. A..		Hart, A. S.
No. 84.	Lebanon Chapter, Wingham.	
	Smith, William.	

AT REST.

NAME.	NAME AND NUMBER OF CHAPTER.	DATE.
Cameron, A. H.	1, Anc. Frontenac.	
Hess, Charles.	2, The Hiram	Feb 9, 1886.
Bodman, D. J.	3, St. John's.	Sept 20, 1885.
Jolliffe, L. G.	3, "	Feb 23, 1886.
Taylor, Geo.	3, "	March 3, 1886.
Pearce, C. W.	4, St. And. & St. Jo'n	June 4, 1886.
Dinsmore, John T. .	5, St. George's.	Feb 1886.
Oliver, John.	5, "	July 27, 1885.
Henry, John.	6, St. John's.	June 2, 1885.
Secord, Geo. R. . .	6, "	
Craige, R. J.	7, Moria	April 6, 1886.
McKenzie, John.	15, Wawanosh	May 20, 1880.
Hewer, John.	15, "	Oct. 14, 1885.
Phillip, Edwin.	16, Carleton	April, 1886.
Hudson, Wm. Henry	20, Mount Horeb ..	Sept 26, 1885.
Geralds, William ..	22, Grenville	March 5, 1886.
Hill, Alfred.	22, "	July 20, 1885.
Holmes, James	22, "	July 24, 1885.
Rutherford, Robert. .	24, Tecumseh.	Dec 16, 1885.
Huff, Chas B.	31, Prince Edward. .	May 1, 1886.
Carter Jas. J.	31, " " ..	May 13, 1873.
Ramsay, Robert. . .	34, Signet	Jan. 4, 1886.
Aylsworth, A. K.	44, Mt. Sinai.	May 8, 1886.
Fraser, A. D.	44, " ..	March 6, 1886.
Carter, Robert. . .	49, Elora.	Sept. 7, 1885.
Fields, R.	59, Sussex	Oct. 14, 1885.
Halley, And. Brown	66, The Malloch.	August 4, 1885.
Draper, Joseph S. .	67, Enterprise. . .	May 1, 1886.
Walden, John Wm. .	70, Grand River.	July 11, 1885.
Barry, Thos. R.	79, Orient.	Nov. 21, 1885.
Stutt, John A.	87, Wentworth.	July 8, 1885.

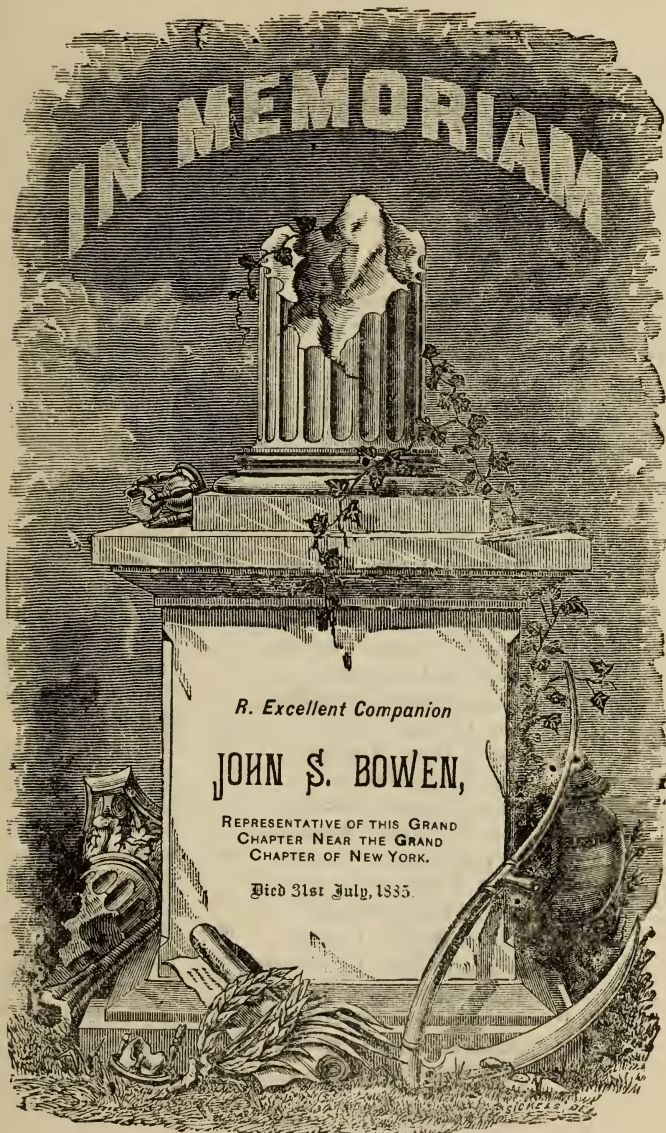


R. Excellent Companion

ROBERT RAMSAY,

PAST GRAND SCRIBE N.

Died 4th January, 1886.



OFFICERS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER, 1886-87.

M. E. Comp.	Thomas Sargent, Toronto, Grand Z.		
R. E.	Robert Hendry, jr., Kingston	H.	Grand Council.
"	R. B. Hungerford, London,	J.	
"	Peter A. Craig, Windsor,	Gr. Supt.	St. Clair District.
"	S. S. Clutton, Aylmer,	"	London "
"	Chas. L. Beard, Woodstock,	"	Wilson "
"	William Cowan, Galt,	"	Wellington "
"	Henry Bickford, Dundas,	"	Hamilton "
"	DeWitt H. Martyn, Kincardine	"	Huron "
"	John M. Clement, Niagara,	"	Niagara "
"	Seymour Porter, Toronto,	"	Toronto "
"	J. B. Trayes, Port Hope,	"	Ontario "
"	J. J. Farlèy, Belleville,	"	P. Edward "
"	Edwin Plant, Ottawa,	"	Central "
"	William J. Logan, St. John,	"	N. Bruns'k "
"	John Kerr Brydon, Rat Portage,	"	Manitoba "
"	David McLellan, Hamilton,	Grand	Scribe E.
"	James D. Christie, Chatham,	"	" N.
"	Joseph Beck, Saltford,	"	Principal Sojourner
"	Edward Mitchell, Hamilton,	"	Treasurer.
"	John A. Wills, Toronto,	"	Registrar.
V. E. Comp.	John S. Dewar, London,	"	1st Asst. Sojourner.
"	John Waring, Picton,	"	2nd "
"	Elias T. Malone, Toronto,	"	Sword Bearer.
"	S. G. Fairtlough, Kingston,	"	Master of Veils.
"	H. J. M. Wilson, Toronto,	"	Standard Bearer.
"	W. S. S. Jackson, Toronto,	"	Director of Cer.
"	Jas. M. Dunn, Welland.	"	Organist.
"	Geo. J. Bennett, Parkdale,	"	Pursuivant.
"	Walter Paterson, jr., Peterboro	"	Steward.
"	James A. Malcolm, Hamilton	"	"
"	Nathaniel Greening, Dundas,	"	"
"	Adam Borngasser, Sharon,	"	"
"	John Grant, Brockville,	"	Janitor.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp. Robert Hendry, jr. Kingston, President.

M. E. Comp.	S. Bickerton Harman,	Toronto,	Past Grand Z.
"	" Chas. D. Macdonald	Peterboro',	" "
"	" James Seymour,	St. Catharines,	" "
"	" L. H. Henderson,	Belleville,	" "
"	" Fred J. Menet,	Toronto,	" "
"	" Daniel Spry,	Barrie,	" "
"	" Donald Ross,	Picton,	" "
"	" Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound,	" "
R. E.	" R. B. Hungerford,	London,	Grand J.

GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS.

R. E. Comp.	Peter A. Craig,	Windsor,	St. Clair District.
"	" David Trotter,	Petrolea,	London "
"	" C. L. Beard,	Woodstock,	Wilson "
"	" Wm. Cowan,	Galt,	Wellington "
"	" Henry Bickford,	Dundas,	Hamilton "
"	" DeWitt H. Martyn,	Kincardine,	Huron "
"	" John M. Clement,	Niagara,	Niagara "
"	" Seymour Porter,	Toronto,	Toronto "
"	" J. B. Traves,	Port Hope,	Ontario "
"	" J. J. Farley,	Belleville,	Pr. Edward "
"	" Edwin Plant,	Ottawa,	Central "
"	" Wm. J. Logan,	St. John,	N. Bruns'k "
"	" John Kerr Brydon,	Rat Portage,	Manitoba, "

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

R. E. Comp.	David McLellan,	Hamilton,	Grand Scribe E.
"	" J. D. Christie,	Chatham,	" " N.

ELECTED BY GRAND CHAPTER.

R. E. Comp.	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
"	" James B. Nixon,	Toronto.
"	" John Ross Robertson,	"
"	" John Creasor,	Owen Sound.
V. E.	" John S. Dewar,	London.

BENEVOLENT COMMITTEE.

R. E. Comp.	Otto Klotz,	Preston.
M. E.	" Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
R. E.	" J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.

APPOINTED BY THE GRAND Z.

R. E. Comp.	A. G. Smyth,	London.
"	" Wm. Forbes,	Grim-by.
"	" Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville.
"	" Wm. G. Reid,	Hamilton.
V. E.	" S. G. Fairtlough,	Kingston.

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA FROM FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives.	Residences.
Alabama,	R. E. Comp.	Isaac F. Toms,	Goderich.
Arkansas,	" "	John McLaren,	Orangeville.
California,	M. E. "	Henry Macpherson,	Owen Sound
Colorado,	" "	L. H. Henderson,	Belleville.
Connecticut,	" "	Donald Ross,	Pictou.
Dakota,	R. E. "	R. B. Hungerford,	London.
Delaware,	" "	T. C. Macnabb,	Chatham.
Dist. of Col.,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
Florida,	" "	James Moffat,	London.
Georgia,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
Illinois,	" "	Wm. Forbes,	Grimsby.
Indiana,	M. E. "	James Seymour,	St. Catharines
Iowa,	" "	James Seymour,	St. Catharines
Kansas,	R. E. "	J. W. Gibson,	Hamilton.
Kentucky,	M. E. "	Thos. Sargent,	Toronto.
Louisiana,	R. E. "	Edward Mitchell,	Hamilton.
Maine,	" "	D. R. Munro,	St John, N. B.
Maryland,	" "	J. G. Burns,	Toronto.
Massachusetts,	" "	Jas. A. Henderson,	Kingston.
Minnesota,	M. E. "	Fred. J. Menet,	Toronto.
Mississippi,	R. E. "	Henry Robertson,	Collingwood.
Missouri,	" "	W. J. B. McLeod Moore,	Prescott.
Nebraska,	" "	J. Ross Robertson,	Toronto.
New Hampshire,	" "	David McLellan,	Hamilton.
New Jersey,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Nevada,	R. E. "	J. J. Mason,	Hamilton.
New York,	" "	H. Robertson,	Collingwood.
North Carolina,	" "	Jas. Wilson,	Toronto.
Nova Scotia,	" "	Robert Hendry, jr.,	Kingston.
Ohio,	V. E. "	H. A. Mackay,	Berlin
Oregon,	R. E. "	R. J. Hovenden,	Toronto.
Pennsylvania,	" "	Donald McPhie,	Hamilton.
Quebec,	M. E. "	Daniel Spry,	Barrie.
Rhode Island,	R. E. "	J. B. Traves,	Port Hope.
South Carolina,	M. E. "	C. D. Macdonald,	Peterboro'.
Tennessee,	R. E. "	Wm. Gibson,	Beamsville.
Texas,	" "	R. Brierley,	Hamilton.
Virginia,	" "	Wm. Brydon,	Rat Portage.
Vermont,	" "	Jas. B. Nixon,	Toronto.
Washington Ter.,	E. "	Hugh Murray,	Hamilton.
West Virginia,	M. E. "	S. B. Harman,	Toronto.
Wisconsin,	R. E. "	Gavin Stewart,	Hamilton.
Scotland,	" "	J. K. Kerr,	Toronto.
Gr. Mark L'ge of Eng. & Wales,	M. E. "	Jas. Seymour,	St. Catharines

REPRESENTATIVES NEAR FOREIGN GRAND CHAPTERS
FROM THE GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

Grand Chapters.		Representatives.	Residences.
Alabama		E. Comp. Jos. H. Johnson	Talladega.
Arkansas		" " Geo. L. Kimball	Dardanelle.
California	M. " "	N. W. Spaulding	Oakland.
Colorado	" "	" Lawrence N. Greenleaf	Denver.
Connecticut	" "	" W. R. Higby	Bridgeport.
Dakota	M. " "	" William Blatt	Yankton.
Delaware	" "	" Geo. F. Young	Wilmington.
Dist. of Columbia	R. " "	" J. S. McCoy, M. D.	Washington.
Florida	M. " "	" Robt. J. Perry	Key West.
Georgia	M. " "	" W. A. Graham	Fort Gaines.
Illinois	" "	" Archibald McLellan	Chicago.
Indiana	" "	" E. L. McLallen	Columbia City.
Iowa	" "	" Jas. W. Wilson	Newton.
Ireland	" "	" J. H. Neilson	Dublin.
Kansas	M. " "	" Jacob De Witt	Salina
Kentucky	M. " "	" H. R. French	Mt. Sterling.
Louisiana	R. " "	" Andrew Hero, jr.	New Orleans.
Maine	M. " "	" Andrew J. Fuller	Bath.
Maryland	" "	" J. M. Carter	Baltimore.
Massachusetts	R. " "	" Edwin Wright	Boston.
Minnesota	R. " "	" Orville G. Miller	St. Paul.
Mississippi	M. " "	" A. H. Barkley	Crawfordsville.
Missouri	R. " "	" M. A. Fyke	Clinton.
Nebraska	R. " "	" H. P. Duel	Omaha.
New Hampshire	R. " "	" A. Baker	Lebanon.
New Jersey	M. " "	" W. H. McIlhaney	New York.
Nevada	R. " "	" S. W. Chubbuck	Gold Hill.
New York	R. " "	" Horace G. Hopkins	Willard.
North Carolina	" "	" Chas. C. Clarke	New Berne.
Nova Scotia	" "	" L. F. Darling	Halifax.
Ohio	R. " "	" C. A. Woodward	Cleveland.
Oregon	" "	" Donald McKay	Portland.
Pennsylvania	R. " "	" Thos. R. Patton	Philadelphia.
Quebec	R. " "	" Thos. Milton	Montreal.
Rhode Island	R. " "	" W. R. Greene	Providence.
South Carolina	" "	" J. M. Bratten, M. D.	Charlestown.
Tennessee	" "	" Elihu Edmondson	Pulaski.
Washington Ter.	M. " "	" Andrew McCalley	Walla Walla.
Texas	" "	" Henry Scherffius	Houston.
Virginia	M. " "	" Geo. W. Dame	Danville.
Vermont	R. " "	" Wm. Brinsmaid	Burlington.
West Virginia	R. " "	" Frank Johnson	Wheeling.
Wisconsin	M. " "	" R. D. Pulford	Mineral Point.
Scotland	R. " "	" The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kintore	Carlton Club. London, Eng.
Gr. Mark Lodge of Eng. and Wales	M. " "	" Frederick Binckes	London, Eng.

GRAND CHAPTERS AND ADDRESSES OF GRAND OFFICERS.

GRAND CHAPT'RS	GRAND HIGH PRIESTS.	GRAND SECRETARIES	CHAIRMAN FOR. CORRESPONDEN'E
Alabama	Wm. Wallace Screws, Montgomery	Daniel Sayre, Montgomery	Palmer Job Pillans, Mobile
Arkansas	Jas. H. VanHoose, Fayetteville	James A. Henry, Little Rock	Sam. W. Williams
California	B. F. Tuttle, Petaluma	T. H. Caswell, San Francisco	T. H. Caswell, San Francisco
Canada	Thomas Sargent, Toronto (G. Z.)	David McLellan, Hamilton (G. S. E.)	Henry Robertson, Collingwood
Colorado	Lawrence N. Greenleaf, Denver	Ed. C. Parmelee, Georgetown	Byron L. Carr, Longmont
Connecticut	James McCormick, Hartford	Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford	John H. Barlow, Birmingham
Dakota	Peter Pickton, Fargo	Thos. J. Wilder, Casselton	Thos. J. Wilder, Casselton
Delaware	W. C. Baggerlee, Wilmington	Wm. Marshall, Wilmington	John Otto, jr, Wilmington
Dist. of Columbia	Geo. E. Corson, Sur. Gen. office	Lewis G. Stephens, Washington	Wm. R. Singleton, Washington
Florida	Wm. E. Anderson, Blackwater	DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville	Enos Wasgate
Georgia	A. M. Wolihin, Brunswick	J. Emmett Blackshear, Macon	
Illinois	John O'Neill, Chicago	Gil W. Barnard, Chicago	J. M. Pearson, Godfrey, Madis'n Co
Indiana	Mortimer Nye, La Porte	John M. Bramwell, Indianapolis	Thomas B. Long, Terre Haute
Iowa	Sylvester S. Bean, Creaston	John C. Parish, Des Moines	John C. Parish, Des Moines
Kansas	Andrew M. Callahan, Topeka	John H. Brown, Wyandotte	John H. Brown, Wyandotte
Kentucky	Bernard G. Witt, Henderson	Joseph H. Branham, Louisville	Hiram Basset, Millersburg
Louisiana	Jos. Potts Hornor, New Orleans	J. C. Batchelor, New Orleans	Joseph Potts Hornor, New Orleans
Maine	James M. Nevens, Bucksport	Ira Berry, Portland	Josiah H. Drummond, Portland
Maryland	John M. Carter, Baltimore	Geo. L. McCahan, Baltimore	Edward T. Schultz, Baltimore
Massachusetts	Frederick T. Comee, Boston	Alfred F. Chapman, Boston	Rev. John W. Dadmun, Boston
Michigan	Daniel Stricker, Hastings	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids	Wm. P. Innes, Grand Rapids
Minnesota	Blinn Convers, St. Paul	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul	A. T. C. Pierson, St. Paul
Mississippi	Richard P. Bowen, Chulahoma	J. L. Power, Jackson	P. M. Savery
Missouri	Lee A. Hall, St. Louis	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis	Wm. H. Mayo, St. Louis
Nebraska	John D. Moore, Grand Island	Wm. R. Bowen, Omaha	

New Hampshire	John Francis Webster, Concord	George P. Cleaves, Concord	Albert S. Wait, Newport
New Jersey	Chas. Belcher, Newark	George B. Edwards, Jersey City	Henry Vehlslage
Nevada	Thos. A. Menary, Gold Hill	John D. Hammond, Carson	Jno. D. Hammond, Carson
New York	Richard H. Huntington, Adams	Christopher G. Fox, Buffalo	Darius A. Ogden, Penn. Yan.
North Carolina	Geo. W. Blount, Wilson	Donald W. Bain, Raleigh	James Southgate
Nova Scotia	H. D. DeBlois, Annapolis	Geo. T. Smithers, Halifax	Geo. T. Smithers, Halifax
Ohio	Jacob L. H. Long, Ottawa	James Nesbitt, Troy	Graff M. Acklin, Toledo
Oregon	James K. Weatherford, Albany	R. P. Earhart, Salem	R. P. Earhart, Salem
Pennsylvania	G. W. Kendrick, jr., Philadelphia	Chas. E. Meyer, Philadelphia	Samuel Harper, Pittsburg
Quebec	John P. Noyes, Waterloo (G. Z.)	David Seath, Montreal (G. S. E.)	C. A. Humphrey, Montreal
Rhode Island	Ed. L. Ereeman, Central Falls	William R. Green, Providence	George H. Burnham, Providence
South Carolina	J. E. Brezeal, Anderson	J. E. Burke, Charleston	J. E. Burke, Charleston
Tennessee	Bradford Nichol, Nashville	John Frizzell, Nashville	John Frizzell, Nashville
Texas	Haston Twomey, Carthage	R. Brewster, Houston	R. M. Elgin, Houston
Virginia	Robert T. Craighill, Lynchburg	Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond	Wm. B. Isaacs, Richmond
Vermont	Kittridge Haskins, Battleboro	Wm. H. S. Whitcomb, Burlington	Frederick S. Fisher, St. Johnsbury
Washington Ter.	Andrew McCalley, Walla Walla	Thos. M. Reed, Olympia	Thos. Milburne Reed, Olympia
West Virginia	Odell S. Long, Charleston	W. H. Riggs, Martinsburg	Wm. C. Swain, Milwaukee
Wisconsin	S. H. Alban, Wasau	John W. Laffin, Milwaukee	
Gen. Gr. Chapt'r	Alfred F. Chapman, Boston	Chris. G. Fox, Buffalo	
England	H. R. H. the Prince of Wales	Col. Shadwell Clerke, London	
Ireland	Hon. Judge Townshend	S. B. Oldham, Dublin	
Scotland	Col. Sir A. C. Campbell, Bart.	W. Edwards, Edinburgh (G. S. E.)	
G. Mark Lodge		Frederick Binckes, 8a Red Lion Square, Holborn, W. C.	
of Eng. & Wales Rt. Hon. the Earl of Kintore			

LIST OF CHAPTERS—BY DISTRICTS.

NO. 1, ST. CLAIR DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Peter A. Craig, Windsor.

No. 47.	Wellington, Chatham,.....	Kent	County.
" 71,	Prince of Wales, Amherstburg.....	Essex	"
" 73,	Erie, Ridgetown.....	Kent	"
" 80,	Ark, Windsor.....	Essex	"
" 88,	Macnabb, Dresden.....	Kent	"

NO. 2, LONDON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. S. S. Clutton, Aylmer.

No. 3,	St. John's, London.....	Middlesex	County.
" 5,	St. George's, London.....	"	"
" 15,	Wawanosh, Sarnia.....	Lambton	"
" 53,	Bruce, Petrolea.....	"	"
" 54,	Palestine, St. Thomas.....	Elgin	"
" 74,	Beaver, Strathroy,.....	Middlesex	"
" 78,	Minnewawa, Park Hill.....	"	"
" 81,	Aylmer, Aylmer.....	Elgin	"

NO. 3, WILSON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Chas. L. Beard, Woodstock

No. 18,	Oxford, Woodstock.....	Oxford	County.
" 20,	Mount Horeb, Brantford.....	Brant	"
" 23,	Ezra, Simcoe.....	Norfolk	"
" 41,	Harris, Ingersoll.....	Oxford	"

NO. 4, WELLINGTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. William Cowan, Galt.

No. 32,	Waterloo, Galt.....	Waterloo	County.
" 40,	Guelph, Guelph.....	Wellington	"
" 49,	Elora, Elora.....	"	"
" 67,	Enterprise, Harriston.....	Wellington	"
" 70,	Grand River, Berlin,.....	Waterloo	"
" 83,	Ionic, Orangeville.....	Wellington	"

NO. 5, HAMILTON DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Henry Bickford, Dundas.

No. 2,	The Hiram, Hamilton.....	Wentworth	County
" 6,	St. John's, Hamilton.....	"	"
" 75,	St. Clair, Milton.....	Halton	"
" 87,	Wentworth, Dundas.	Wentworth	"

NO. 6, HURON DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. DeWitt H. Martyn, Kincardine.

No. 24, Tecumseh, Stratford.....	Perth	County.
" 30, Huron, Goderich.....	Huron	"
" 46, St. James', St. Mary's.....	Perth	"
" 63, Havelock, Kincardine.....	Bruce	"
" 66, The Malloch, Clinton.....	Huron	"
" 82, Shuniah, Port Arthur.....	Algoma	District.
" 84, Lebanon, Wingham,.....	Huron	County.
" 85, Exeter, Exeter.....	Huron	"

NO. 7, NIAGARA DISTRICT.

Grand District Supt.—R. E. Comp. John M. Clement, Niagara.

No. 19, Mount Moriah, St. Catharines.....	Lincoln	County.
" 29, McCallum, Dunnville.....	Monk	"
" 55, Niagara, Niagara.....	Niagara	"
" 57, King Hiram, Port Colborne.....	Welland	"
" 64, Willson, Welland.....	"	"
" 69, Grimsby, Grimsby.....	Lincoln	"
" 76, Mount Nebo, Niagara Falls South.....	Welland	"

NO. 8, TORONTO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R.E. Comp. Seymour Porter, Toronto.

No. 4, St. Andrew and St John, Toronto.....	York	County.
" 8, King Solomon's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 27, Manitou, Collingwood.....	Simcoe	"
" 34, Signet, Barrie.....	"	"
" 38, Seymour, Bradford.....	"	"
" 56, Georgian, Owen Sound.....	Grey	"
" 60, Doric, Newmarket.....	York	"
" 62, York, Eglinton.....	"	"
" 65, St. Paul's, Toronto.....	"	"
" 77, Occident, Toronto.....	"	"
" 79, Orient, Toronto.....	"	"
" 86, Macpherson, Meaford.....	Grey	"
" 91, Antiquity, Parkdale.....	York	"
" 92, Spry, Alliston.....	Simcoe	"

NO. 9, ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. B. Trayes, Port Hope.

No. 28, Pentalpha, Oshawa.....	Ontario	County.
" 35, Keystone, Whitby.....	"	"
" 36, Corinthian, Peterboro'.....	Peterboro'	"
" 37, Victoria, Port Hope.....	Durham	"
" 45, Excelsior, Colborne.....	Northumb'd	"
" 48, St. John's, Cobourg.....	"	"

NO. 10, PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. J. Farley, Belleville.

No. 7, Moira, Belleville.....	Hastings County.
“ 26, St. Mark's, Trenton.....	“ “
“ 31, Prince Edward, Picton.....	Pr. Edward “
“ 44, Mount Sinai, Napanee.....	Lennox “

NO. 11, CENTRAL DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Edwin Plant, Ottawa

No. 1, Ancient Frontenac and Cataraqui, Kingston ...	Frontenac County.
“ 16, Carleton, Ottawa.....	Carleton “
“ 22, Grenville, Prescott.....	Grenville “
“ 58, Pembroke, Pembroke.....	Renfrew “
“ 59, Sussex, Brockville.....	Leeds “
“ 61, Granite, Almonte.....	Lanark “
“ 68, Maitland, Maitland.....	Grenville “

NO. 12, NEW BRUNSWICK DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. Wm. J. Logan, St. John.

No. 10, New Brunswick, St. John.....	St. John, N. B.
“ 11, St. Mark's, St. Andrew's.....	St. Andrew's, N. B.
“ 39, Botsford, Moncton.....	Westmoreland “
“ 89, Woodstock, Woodstock.....	Carleton.

NO. 13—MANITOBA DISTRICT.

Grand District Superintendent—R. E. Comp. J. K. Brydon, Rat Portage.

No. 52, Prince Rupert, Winnipeg.....	Manitoba.
“ 90, Golden, Rat Portage.....	Rainey River.

1886.

GRAND CHAPTER OF CANADA.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

HENRY ROBERTSON, CHAIRMAN.

*To the Most Excellent Grand Z., and the Grand Chapter of
Royal Arch Masons of Canada.*

The present Committee on Correspondence beg herewith to present their Nineteenth Annual Report. It is a source of great gratification to find that peace and harmony are almost universally prevailing all over the Capitular world. Only in our sister Province of Quebec is there any sign of difference, except the noble contention of who can best work and who can best carry out in their fullest integrity, the noble tenets and high principles of our beloved Order. Even in Quebec, we know that there are but very few Royal Arch Masons between whom there is any variance whatever, the great majority on both sides being fraternally disposed towards each other.

The triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter this year, in the month of September, at Washington, D. C., is expected to be an event of great importance, and is looked forward to by many with feelings of pleasurable anticipation, to the re-union of old friends and the formation of new and fraternal ties with Brothers and Companions engaged in the same work in widely separated places.

For the rest, in most cases, quietude prevails. The increase in membership has not been great, but still there has been an increase, and the prevailing "hard times" and the plethora of other old and new societies and fraternal organizations are quite sufficient to account for the condition of things Masonically.

Our Masonic organization is still "the noblest Roman of

them all," it is the parent of all the other societies, and still holds the foremost place in the hearts and affections of all those who love their fellow-men. Its grand and increasing charities, its noble record of brotherly love, relief and truth, its thoroughly cosmopolitan character and its world-wide extension all combine to give it a prominence and value peculiarly its own.

The reports on correspondence continue to be the leading feature in the proceedings of the various Grand Chapters that have been presented to your committee. In the thousands of pages read over and carefully considered by your committee in the performance of their duty, there are many items and remarks and counsels of great importance and of vital moment to the Chapters and the individual Companions. It is impossible, in the limits of a report such as this, to give all that is interesting or instructive which is to be found in the reviewed proceedings. To make a judicious selection from the addresses of the presiding officers, from the more important reports of the committees on jurisprudence and other standing or special committees and from the views of reporters (who are, in general, Companions of great ability), is all that can be profitably attempted.

With that commendable modesty that is so striking a natural feature of the Scribe, your committee propose to confine themselves mainly to extracts, in the endeavor to give our Companions a passing view of what is going on in the Capitular world. For convenience of reference, the proceedings are taken in alphabetical order. At the end of the report will be placed a list of those reviewed and also mention of those not received.

ALABAMA.

The 59th Convocation was held at Montgomery, Dec. 8th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. William S. Foster, G. H. P.

In his address, Comp. Foster regrets the absence of the Chairman of the Committee on Work, Comp. Henry Clay Armstrong, who has been appointed U. S. Consul at Rio Janeiro, in Brazil. Comp. Armstrong has long taken an active part in the work of the Grand Chapter.

Peace and harmony prevail throughout this jurisdiction, and they have many reasons for being encouraged, although the Royal Craft has not progressed as well as they could have wished. The conclusion of the address is as follows :—

"The vast material resources of our State are daily becoming better known to the world, and are being developed to an extent that promises soon to make Alabama one of the wealthiest mining districts in our country. Our population is steadily increasing. Many active and energetic business men are being drawn hither by the attractions and advantages which our grand old State has to offer them. Our people are more hopeful of the future, and an era of prosperity brighter than they have known for many years, seems opening up before them. And surely, Companions, as we note these many gratifying evidences of improvement in our surroundings, we may be pardoned if we indulge in the hope of a brighter future for our beloved Fraternity.

Then, again, I say let us with renewed courage push manfully on in the noble and glorious work of building our mystic temple, each one striving to so perfect his work that it will stand the test of the great overseer's square. Then we may safely leave the final results to the Great I Am, trusting in the promise that "in due time we shall reap if we faint not."

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted to the effect that no Companion shall be eligible to the office of Grand High Priest for more than two years successively.

No action was taken on the "Quebec" question, it being considered that the General Grand Chapter should first announce its opinion.

The Report on Correspondence is again by Comp Palmer J. Pillans, and notices our proceedings for 1885 in a very fraternal manner.

M. E. Comp. W. W. Screws, (Montgomery,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Daniel Sayre, (Montgomery,) G. S.

ARKANSAS.

The 25th Convocation was held at Little Rock, November 26, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Logan H. Roots, G. H. P.

Capitular Masonry in this State has enjoyed calm, steady progress, without convulsions, contentions or innovations. On the benefit to be derived from official visitations, Comp. Roots says:—

"I am deeply impressed with the great importance of official visitations. No Grand High Priest or other officer of this Grand Chapter can possibly perform the needed work in this direction, as it should be done, unless he is without active employment and time-demanding business. If a bright, vigorous, zealous, competent person could be induced to devote his time to the work of visitations, or if any other arrangement could be consummated to have all the Chapters properly visited, I would gladly contribute personally for the next year toward the cost thereof. It is said that the Chapters are not able to make the necessary outlay. I believe if the

experiment could be tried their vitality would be so increased that even on the mere question of finance that there would be more funds in the treasury after meeting such expenditures than there now is or likely to be, unless some method of securing more extensive visitations is adopted.

It is not possible, Companions, to do anything practically effective in arranging to secure general visitations, except by some person who can devote his full time to it, or by a number of Companions who will each devote a considerable portion of their time thereto."

The business transacted was chiefly local.

Owing to the state of the Finances, the Committee on Correspondence did not make any extended report. They recommended the recognition of Dakota's new Grand Chapter, and that further action on the request of the Grand Chapter of Portugal for recognition be postponed till next year, and their report was adopted.

M. E. Comp. J. H. Van Hoose, (Fayetteville,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James A. Henry, (Little Rock,) G. S.

COLORADO.

The 11th Convocation was held at Denver, September 17th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Horace N. Banks, G. H. P. reports one new Chapter and all the Subordinates in a flourishing condition.

A motion to reduce the fees for the Capitular Degrees from fifty dollars to thirty dollars was lost.

The following was also lost :—

"That no candidate be permitted to advance in the Capitular Degrees until he has passed a satisfactory examination in the lectures of the preceding degree."

A compilation of the decisions of former Grand High Priests was ordered to be made.

Canada for 1884 and 1885 receives due notice at the hands of Comp. George Wyman in his able report on correspondence.

Our Representative, M. E. Comp. Lawrence N. Greenleaf, of Denver was elected Grand High Priest.

The Grand Secretary, R. E. Comp. Ed. C. Parmelee, of Georgetown was re-elected.

DAKOTA.

The First Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the Territory of Dakota was held at the City of Fargo, on the 8th June, 1885.

Present,—The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. William Blatt, the other Grand Officers and Representatives from 12 out of the 15 Chartered Chapters in this jurisdiction, and from 5 Chapters under dispensation.

The Grand High Priest reports their condition as satisfactory in every respect and its future highly promising, keeping pace with the almost unparalleled progress of the Territory. He issued dispensations for four new Chapters, and says:—

“In this connection permit me to state that we should make haste slowly in the establishment of new Chapters. Lodges throughout this Territory are as a rule but small as to membership. In older jurisdictions with a larger membership it is held that a Chapter should have no less than three lodges within its jurisdiction. I sincerely believe this estimate a very low one and think that a Chapter, at least in this jurisdiction, should be able to draw its membership from no less than four or five lodges. That one good and strong Chapter is better than two weak ones is certainly true. We may further add, that the rule not to establish a new Chapter at the material expense of one already in existence is a safe and good one, and should be adhered to. I believe that some of our Chapters are in too close proximity, and time will prove to you the truth of the foregoing views.”

The total membership of 20 Chapters is 638.

The following is the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted.

“First. We would recommend that no action be taken at this Convocation limiting the time for which the commissions of Grand Representatives be in force.

Second. In the matter of invasion of jurisdiction as complained of by the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, your committee recommend it be left in the hands of our M. E. G. H. P. for adjustment, and would also recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That no petition for the capitular degrees be received from any brother who has not resided twelve months within this Grand jurisdiction and six months under the jurisdiction of the Chapter to which such petition may be presented.

Third. In the matter of decisions made by the M. E. G. High Priest, and referred to in his address, we deem them correct, and recommend that the same be approved by the Grand Chapter.”

A Resolution that no new Chapter should be formed within 25 miles of an existing Chapter, nor unless there be four lodges under its jurisdiction, was negatived.

M. E. Comp. William Blatt, (Yankton,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Thos. J. Wilder, (Casselton,) G. S.

DELAWARE.

The 17th Convocation was held at Wilmington, January 21st, 1885.

M. E. Comp. John Otto, jr., G.H.P.

The condition of the Subordinate Chapters is reported as follows :

"The increase of members has been in the Chapters of this city ; the number has been small, but the quality of the material brought up for our building has been good. I here earnestly recommend the Chapters to thoroughly inspect the material offered, and accept none but such as is without blemish. Rather make no addition to the structure than run the risk of adding doubtful blocks to the building. The Chapters out of the city are about inactive, and in accordance with the resolution passed by this Grand Chapter at our Convocation in 1883, which says : That Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, failing to meet, at least, in four Convocations in a year shall be summoned to show cause why their Charter should not be withdrawn."

The Committee on Correspondence reported that they were willing to prepare and publish a report if the Grand Chapter would so direct, but the lack of funds was an insurmountable obstacle.

The action of the Grand Chapter of Quebec was endorsed, and the Grand Mark Lodge of England was fraternally requested to withdraw its warrants from Quebec.

The charters of three Chapters were declared forfeited, and the Grand Secretary directed to demand their books, paraphernalia, and effects. It was also resolved that any Companion a member of either of those Chapters, should obtain a certificate of membership on payment of one year's dues.

M. E. Comp. John Otto, jr. (Wilmington), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. H. B. McIntire (Wilmington), G. S.

The 18th Convocation was held at Wilmington, January 20th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. John Otto, jr., G.H.P.

His work during the year was very light. The Chapters have done about their usual quantity of work, not large, but of good quality, for which they are to be complimented.

R. E. Comp. Henry B. McIntire, who has been Grand Secretary for the past five years, retired from that position owing to the multiplicity of his business engagements.

By the adoption of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, the Grand Chapter of Portugal was recognized, and

exchange of representatives entered into. The following correspondence appears appended to the report :

WILMINGTON, DEL., Nov. 29th, 1885.

FREDERICK BINCKES,

No. 8 a. Red Lion Square,

Holborn, London, W. C.

DEAR SIR AND R. E. COMPANION :

By instructions of John Otto, jr., Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Delaware, I am directed to correspond with you in relation to the Grand Chapter of Portugal. What we desire to ascertain is :

- 1st. Is said Grand Chapter a legal body?
- 2nd. Is it recognized by the Grand Chapter of England, Scotland and Wales?
- 3rd. Are its members *white or colored*?
- 4th. Would you recommend our Grand Chapter to recognize said Grand Chapter?

I send you report of proceedings of Grand Chapter of Delaware in 1885, and refer you to Page 16.

Truly and fraternally yours,

H. B. MCINTIRE,
Grand Secretary.

GREAT QUEEN ST., LONDON, W. C.

December 16th, 1885.

R. W. COMP. H. B. MCINTIRE,

Gd. Scribe Gd. R. A. Ch. of Delaware :

SIR AND COMPANION,—I hereunto acknowledge a letter of yours dated 29th Nov. last, and addressed by some error to Comp. F. Binckes, making enquiries relative to the Gd. Chapter R. Arch for Portugal.

In reply I have to inform you that the Gd. Chapter referred to is a regular body, and that it is recognized by the Gd. Chapter of England.

Its first Gd. Principal is an English clergyman, others of its officers are English. and the remainder Italian natives of Portugal. I am not aware whether there are any "colored" persons amongst them.

I remain, Sir and Comp'n,
Yours Fraternally,

SHADWELL H. CLERKE,
Colonel,
Gd. Scribe Gd. Chapter of England."

The report on Correspondence was presented by Comp. J. F. Mynich, and reviews all the Grand Chapters in correspondence with the Grand Chapter of Delaware. It was decided, however, not to print

M. E. Comp. W. C. Baggerley (Wilmington), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. William Marshall (Wilmington), G. S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

On February 21, 1885, the Grand Chapter of the District of Columbia met and joined the Grand Lodge in the ceremony of dedicating the Washington Monument.

The Annual Convocation was held on December 9, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Jose M. Yznaga, G. H. P.

His address fully sustains the good reputation which has been obtained by this Grand Chapter for able, wise and prudent rulers. Comp. Yznaga made the customary annual visitations, to each of the Subordinate Chapters, at most of which interesting addresses were delivered by Eminent Companions, and the charms of music were added to further the entertainment of those present. Comp. W. R. Singleton delivered two of the addresses.

In the construction of the rule that no candidate shall be advanced until the Chapter is satisfied with his proficiency in all preceding degrees; the word "Proficiency" is held by the Grand High Priest to mean "such familiarity with all preceding degrees as will enable the candidate to pass a satisfactory examination therein."

On the next Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, Comp. Yznaga says:—

"On September 28th, 1886, the Twenty-sixth Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter will be held in this city. The records accessible to the Grand High Priest show that on September 11th, 1819, a resolution was adopted "That a meeting of the General Grand Chapter shall be called by the General Grand Officers, according to the provisions of the Constitution, to be holden at the City of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on the second Wednesday of February, which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three." For some reason not appearing that Grand Body failed to assemble until Sept. 14th, 1826, when it met in the city of New York. A convocation was, however, held here on December 7th, 1835, and it may with safety be pronounced that there is now living no one who was present as a member on that occasion, for on this day fifty years ago the 9th Triennial Convocation closed its labors. On the roll of officers are the names of Edward Livingston, of New York; Joel R. Poinsett, of South Carolina; Rev. Paul Dean, of Massachusetts, and others, men of note, and who left their impress upon the times in which they lived. Their successors will find the Washington of 1886 far different from the Washington of 1835.

Our distinguished Companion from Jersey's Classic Shore, he who, at Denver, when this District was suggested as an appropriate place at which to hold the next Triennial, feared the germs of disease lurking in our atmosphere might imperil the health of the members of the General Grand Chapter, him we will take by the hand and convince of his error. He will, indeed, be embarrassed to discover that spectre, that dread *malaria*

pregnant with all sorts of ills, so frightful to contemplate by those blest with homes where health abounds. But he will find here the most beautiful city in the New World, hardly inferior to any of the Old, in many respects superior to all, the seat of government of a great and happy people, happy in the enjoyment of great privileges. He will find generous and public spirited citizens; he will find here Royal Arch Masons who in the discharge of those duties inculcated in the Chapter yield to none, and who will say to him and to all other members of the General Grand Chapter, "What is ours is yours, what is yours is your own."

Comp. Noble D. Larner, (the present Deputy General Grand High Priest), in presenting his Report on Correspondence, alluded to the fact that he had been engaged in this labor for ten years and he asked to be relieved from further duty on that committee.

There was no work for the Committee on Grievances, and the Committee on Work reported that they had held no meeting during the year, as no question effecting the work had been submitted to them.

The decisions of the Grand High Priest were approved by the Grand Chapter.

Comp. W. R. Singleton offered the following resolution, which was rejected:—

"Resolved, That at every election of officers in the Constituent Chapters, after each vote has been counted, and before each officer has been declared elected he shall be asked by the Presiding Officer if he accepts the office."

That is the practice in some other organizations, but it is, we believe, opposed to the custom obtaining in Masonic bodies.

On the difference in the prerogatives of the Grand Master and the Grand High Priest, Comp. Larner says:—

"We believe that a Grand Master has the right to make "Masons at sight." Some years ago this question was brought prominently before the Craft by the action of the then Grand Master of California, who claimed and exercised the right, and he was sustained, if we remember correctly, in his claim by every Grand Lodge in the United States except that of Illinois and California. We do not believe that a Grand High Priest can exercise such power unless it be granted to him by the Constitution. We believe that both Grand Master and Grand High Priest have the right to suspend during the recess of their respective Grand Bodies, if they believe that the interests of the Craft demand such action on their part. Such suspension, however, should be reported to the Grand Body for such action as it may deem necessary."

Our proceedings for 1885 receive due notice.

We are sorry to lose Comp. Larner from the ranks of the

Reporters and hope he may return again. In the meantime he will be succeeded by Comp. W. R. Singleton.

M. E. Comp. George E. Corson, (Surgeon General's Office, Washington,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. L. G. Stephens, (Masonic Temple.) G. S.

GEORGIA.

The 63rd Convocation was held at Atlanta, April 29th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. W. A. Graham, G. H. P.

He regards the outlook of Capitular Masonry in Georgia as hopeful and encouraging. He formed one new Chapter, and reorganized another. In the absence of a Committee on Correspondence, he calls the attention of his Companions to such matters of foreign interest as he considers of importance. Among these are the new Grand Chapter of Dakota and the Controversy in Quebec.

On the Papal Allocution, he says :—

“The Bull of Pope Leo XIII., against Masonry, has been passed in silence by most of the Grand Chapters.

In the present progress of science and art, and the general advance and diffusion of intelligence the world over, the Bull of the Vatican has been stripped of his horns and his bellowing frightens no one outside of the pale, and not all within. Most Excellent R. M. Fairleigh, Grand High Priest of Kentucky, in a curt and incisive address, makes this extract from the Bull to show its spirit :

‘If anyone watches the proceedings of the Masons in respect of religion especially, it will appear that they drive off the Catholic Church, they add persecutions and insults, the rights of the Church are violated, it is their real supreme aim to persecute Christianity ; Free Masonry is a wicked force, a contagious disease.’

Of course his contemptuous denial follows this ignorant or malicious assertion of the Pope.

The able, full and complete reply of our Most Excellent and Illustrious Companion, Albert Pike, settles the Bull with every intelligent mind.”

Among other items of business transacted, we find the following :—

“Companion Joseph E. Wells, Grand Treasurer, announced that the Jewel ordered for Past Grand High Priest, Most Excellent Luther J. Glenn, has been procured, and by request of the Grand High Priest, the same was formally presented by Companion Lancing Burrows, in a felicitous address, which met an appropriate and feeling response from the honored recipient.

On motion of Companion Glenn, duly seconded, the following amendment to the Constitution offered at the last Annual Convocation, was taken up :

'That Companions of eminence and ability, coming from other Jurisdictions, may, by a vote of two-thirds of this Grand Chapter, be constituted members thereof, with such rank and distinction as may be thought proper, not exceeding their rank in the jurisdiction from whence they came.'

A motion to amend the proposed amendment was offered by Companion Pound, and after some discussion, the point was raised by Comp. Glenn, as to whether they had the right to entertain Comp. Pound's motion; whereupon the Grand High Priest ruled the said motion out of order.

The motion to adopt the original amendment to the Constitution, as above given, was then adopted by a vote of yeas 70, nays 15." * * *

On motion of Comp. Adams. duly seconded, Comp. Lancing Burrows was unanimously elected to membership in this Grand Chapter, with the rank of Past Grand King."

The Quebec matter was referred to the General Grand Chapter, and the Committee on Jurisprudence were relieved from further consideration of that subject.

It was decided that a member of a defunct Chapter could obtain a certificate of membership from the Grand Secretary, on payment of the dues he was owing the Chapter at the time of its surrender.

A motion to appoint a Committee on Foreign Correspondence was laid on the table.

M. E. Comp. A. M. Wolihin, (Brunswick,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Blackshear, (Macon,) G. S.

ILLINOIS.

The 36th Convocation was held at Chicago, October 29th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. John A Ladd, G. H. P., reports one new Chapter. He visited several Chapters during the year and found the work greatly improved. We copy part of his conclusion:—

"The object of this resolution was to carry out the principles inculcated in the Mark Master's degree. Without the literal conformity to the intent and spirit of this degree I fail to see its influences. Certainly the Chapter has no ceremonies more beautiful or instructive, or better calculated to inspire us with the noblest of virtues "Charity," and impress upon our minds our dependence upon each other, than those pertaining to the Mark Master's degree, and when we ignore (as I conceive this report does), the principle object sought to be attained, I feel that we are doing a great injustice to the degree, and utterly destroying its usefulness. This I am certain can not be the intentions of this committee or the purpose of this Grand Body. If the resolution of Companion Wilkins, in its formula, failed to accomplish the object sought, which obviously was the preserva-

tion of the Mark Master's degree, I trust you will take such action in the premises as may in the highest degree and most positive manner preserve to the craft all of its beautiful lessons.

I am pleased to call your attention to a subject which must be of interest to every Companion. I refer to the

MASONIC ORPHAN'S HOME.

The Home is incorporated under the laws of the State, and now urges its claims upon the Fraternity. The prospectus clearly sets forth its objects, which are to provide a home for indigent orphans of Masons. Its purpose to care for, clothe and educate them, and lay a moral and intellectual foundation upon which they can erect a career of usefulness in future life, also to afford a temporary asylum for the widow of a deceased Brother. No enterprise can be more worthy of your support than the Orphan's Home, and as it depends wholly upon the voluntary contributions of the Fraternity, it should be the special care of every Companion to have his name on the roll of membership, and contribute as liberally as his circumstances will permit toward its maintenance."

The Special Committee of the Legitimacy of Chapter Masonry appointed last year, made the following report, which was adopted :—

"Your committee to whom was referred, at our last Annual Convention, the following resolution, offered by E. Companion W. E. Ginther.

'*Resolved*, That all that part of the report of the Committee on Correspondence, expressing the opinion that our Masonry is not legitimate, and that the Chapter is not regular and duly constituted, be and is hereby emphatically rejected.'

Together with the subject matter of the 'Report on Correspondence' and the following preambles and resolutions offered by Comp. D. C. Cregier.

'WHEREAS, This Grand Chapter is the only source of authority and exercises exclusive jurisdiction in all matters pertaining to Capitular Masonry in the State of Illinois, and

WHEREAS, This declaration includes the possession of, exclusive authority over, and control and custody of, all and every the esoteric and exoteric ceremonies and rituals pertaining to the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch ; and,

WHEREAS, These claims are essential to, and consistent with, the sovereign powers and dignity of this Grand Chapter, as well as to other bodies of Masons ; therefore,

Resolved, That the M. E. Grand Chapter of the State of Illinois hereby interdicts the use or practice of any of the esoteric ceremonies or rituals, pertaining to any of the degrees over which it has jurisdiction, by any Companion of its obedience, in any Masonic body or organization of Masons, other than this Grand Chapter or the constituent Chapters under its jurisdiction ; and be it further

Resolved, That the use or practice of any esoteric ceremony or ritual pertaining to any Masonic body or organization of Masons, or of any degree, or degrees of Masonry, other than that of M. M., P. M., M. E. M.

and R. A. are hereby interdicted in this Grand Chapter and in every constituent Chapter under its jurisdiction, and be it further

Resolved, That any Companion violating any of the mandates herein specified shall be subject to discipline therefor.'

Respectfully reports, that at its meeting held on the twenty-fourth day of February, in the city of Chicago, there were present all the Committee except M. E. Comp. J. A. Hawley.

Comps. T. T. Gurney, D. C. Cregier and W. E. Ginther, having been duly notified, were present. In response to an invitation M. E. Jno. A. Ladd, G. H. P., was also present and aided the Committee with his counsel.

Before examination and discussion, Comp. Gurney submitted the following statement, to wit:

'I deny that the above resolution of Comp. Ginther, is a correct statement of my views respecting the Masonic character of the Chapter. I have never said that the Chapter was illegitimate, but I have said that there is no Masonry *per se* outside the symbolic lodge,—furthermore I have never said the Chapter is not regularly, and duly constituted.'

After this statement, which was valuable, in that it cleared the way for the discussion of the main question, Comp. Ginther proceeded to lay before the Committee the reasons why he offered the resolution, and why he thought it should pass—he pointed out many passages in the report of the Committee on Correspondence, which both by implication and in terms, seem to deny that there is any Freemasonry in the Chapter.

This opened up the whole question and subsequent discussions included both resolutions.

After careful consideration and comparing of authorities the Committee submits the following as its conclusion in the premises.

The degree of R. A. M. has no existence in Masonic history prior to the "revival" of A. D. 1717. If conferred at all prior to this, it probably was received as the conclusion of the Master's degree. Shortly after this date however, we find historic mention of it—about the middle of the last century it appears to have been authorized by the Grand Lodge of England and in 1813 duly recognized by the United Grand Lodge of England.

Since this last date all Grand Lodges have acquiesced in relationship and some have specifically endorsed it in terms. On the other hand no Grand Lodge has ever taken offense at, or endeavored to cut off the relationship, or imposed any restrictions relative thereto.

Surely the weight of all the history we have, is almost entirely in favor of maintaining the present friendly connection.

The committee wishes to add a few words relative to the propriety of the present position occupied by this Grand Chapter.

Freemasonry is defined by some of our best scholars as 'a progressive moral science,' illustrating moral truths by familiar symbols.—Your committee believes that to this 'progressive' idea we owe much of our success and power.

The foundation of all lies in the first three degrees, just as the foundation of mathematics lies in its definitions and the four fundamental rules; yet no one will claim that the science of mathematics is concluded by these first rules, while all allow that no operation can be performed without their use. So with the chapter and symbolic lodge. In all the years no occasion

of offence has arisen. The lodge has not felt that it was wronged and the chapter has not abused its privileges. Your committee believes that both have benefited thereby.

The general 'consensus' of the craft agrees with this. It would be difficult to find a R. A. M. upon whom the chapter degrees were duly conferred, who does not at once confess and believe that there is an 'intimate connection' between ancient craft Masonry and the H. R. A. and the Master Masons of the whole country universally believe this. If there be an exception it is not among our younger men—who appear generally to be contented—but only among those, fond of technicalities and speculations, which, in the opinion of your committee would result in damage to our whole Masonic fabric.

This leads to the consideration of what evils would naturally follow if the resolutions presented by Comp. Cregier should be adopted and enforced. All branches of the order would lose the benefit of the idea of 'progression' mentioned before.

There would be no further search for more light, none could be given. The tale would be told, at the start. Each branch of our order must stand alone and so further lose the force of association that to most of us is very dear.

Time, in all probability, would lessen and finally dissolve even the semblance of connection.

Our system of work must be re-organized—all traces of kindly reference to Ancient Craft Masonry must be effaced. This, to be sure would not impair the work of the symbolic lodge, but it would sorely lessen the force and beauty of our beautiful ritual.

Furthermore, this matter of 'work,' and 'uniformity of work,' is conceded (very generally) to be under the control of the Gen. Gr. Chapter U. S. A. and to their outline of plan, our very complete ritual now conforms,—any radical change would conflict with this almost universal custom and put all R. A. Masons in our State 'without the pale,' as regards other Gr. Chapters.

In short, the committee sees no good reason why the above resolutions, as offered by Comp. D. C. Creiger, should be adopted, and therefore respectfully reports back the same, with the recommendation 'that they *do not pass*.'

We respectfully report back the resolution offered by E. Comp. Ginther, with a substitute therefor, and recommend that the substitute *do pass*,—to wit :

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Chapter, there exists an intimate connection between Ancient Craft Masonry and the august degree of the Holy Royal Arch ; that we do not endorse any expression, or implication, or influence, by any member, or officer, of this Grand body, that seems to deny the Masonic character of our order, that we will by all honorable means, strive to maintain and perpetuate, the present intimate, friendly and mutually profitable relations that have always existed and now exist between the M. W. Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M. of the State of Illinois and this Grand R. A. Chapter.

Comp. Theodore T. Gurney presents his concluding Report on Correspondence. We regret to learn that he is obliged to relinquish the performance of this duty owing to ill-health.

His successor will be Comp. John M. Pearson, a Past G. H. P., and the present Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge.

Comp. Gurney, in his notice of New Jersey, has the following :—

“As we have heretofore remarked, we believe that an installed officer should be permitted to resign upon the concurrence of the Grand High Priest. Not infrequently officers permanently remove from the jurisdiction of constituent and Grand Body ; some are incapacitated from service by reason of illness, and some are *constitutionally tired* and won't serve. In such and other cases resignation should be permitted, because the *welfare of the organization demands it*—so we think.

Companion E. objects to the practice of some jurisdictions in declining petitions for the degrees and membership, from unaffiliated Master Masons. The lodge has not asked the chapter thus to become the guardian of its finances or other affairs, and why we should tender our services in such directions, *unasked*, is a mystery. The fact that a petitioner is a Mason—retaining fraternal relations to the brethren and lodge—should be the primary qualification for membership. His non-affiliation is by the action of the lodge, consequently what is *lawful* there should not be held a disqualification for chapter membership, unless some fundamental principle of the organization has been assailed.”

M. E. Comp. John O'Neil, (Chicago,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. G. W. Barnard, (Chicago,) G. S.

(Addresss, Room 21, No. 78 Monroe Street)

INDIANA.

The 40th Convocation was held at Indianapolis, Oct. 21st, 1885.

The Grand High Priest, M. E. Comp. B. F. Dawson, reports the formation of one new Chapter.

We are glad to notice that in Indiana officers are allowed to resign. Their regulation on this subject now reads as follows :

“Section 38. It is the right of any officer of a Chapter to resign his office. When for any cause an office in a Chapter becomes vacant, the High Priest will fill the same by appointment until the next stated election, and should the office of High Priest from any cause become vacant, the officer next in rank will succeed to his duties, with power to fill all such other vacancies that may occur.”

The new Grand Chapters of Washington Territory and Dakota were recognized.

Comp. Thomas B. Long reports on Correspondence and notices Canada for 1885.

With regard to the old complaint that many join the Chapter simply to be enabled to become a Templar, Comp. Long says :—

"Now, perhaps the critics are, after all, radically wrong upon this subject. The writer has himself, in the past, joined somewhat in the "hue and cry," and has gone, to a degree, over the stale "stepping-stone" argument; but more sober reflection leads him to conclude that the person who takes the intermediate degrees in order to get into the temple of knighthood, if he takes the proper interest in its impressive and beautiful orders when he gets them, is likely to be greatly improved in honor, courtesy, manhood and benevolence, and be to all intents, a better man than if he had forever remained among the ranks of the profane. For one, your reviewer shall never again think less of any person because he has set his heart upon one of the several Masonic organizations, unless his known characteristics indicate that he is only attracted thither by the gaud and glitter and brilliancy of its outward appearance. If these are his inducements, and he is known in his locality, as must be the case, it will always be a safe satisfaction to know that he will not attain his ends."

M. E. Comp. Mortimer Bye, (La Porte,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John M. Bramwell, (Indianapolis,) G. S.

IOWA.

The 32nd Convocation was held at Marshalltown, Oct. 20, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Clark Varnum, G. H. P.

Respecting new Chapters, he says:—

"Having what some may call radical ideas respecting Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, it is but fit that a brief statement of my views should precede the record of my official acts respecting the formation of new Chapters.

Masonry should be known in the community as a permanent and potent factor for the general improvement of the morals of the community, and for the special improvement of the morals of its members.

The Chapter, when constituted, ought to be as much a fixture as a church organization, and ought thereafter to exercise its influence over its members in the interests of sociality and morality, as the church does over its members in the interests of morality and religion.

Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, when once constituted, should be stable and permanent; they should thenceforth maintain themselves. No Chapter should be organized if, after a few brief years, its existence is to terminate. Royal Arch Masons cannot afford, and, as a rule, do not desire, to create a Chapter which will be ephemeral; which will flourish for a little time, and then die.

But if Chapters are easily obtained, and are located closely to each other, some of them cannot permanently survive. The weaker must necessarily die—must necessarily cease to exist for want of material to make good the necessary diminution occasioned by death, removals, and the other causes incident to our human nature. The territory which will maintain one live, healthy Chapter with plenty of work is better thus supplied than it is with two weakly Chapters, meeting only occasionally, frequently in debt, and with rarely a conferring of degrees.

It is the work that keeps Chapters alive. It is the work that awakens interest, brings out a full attendance, and reinstructs the Companions in our moral teachings. And when by dividing the territory tributary to a Chapter its work is divided and lessened, the interest taken by the members is decreased and diminished in a corresponding degree. Again, if a Chapter can maintain a good financial standing it will ordinarily be successful. But if two Chapters, with their doubled expenses, attempt to exist upon the financial receipts of one, they are both soon in debt; then dues are increased, and plans formulated to increase the revenues; and eventually those least interested, or residing farthest away, become discouraged, they demit and join the rapidly increasing army of non-affiliates, until finally the two Chapters will have a less membership than the one strong Chapter would have had if its territory had not been divided.

Entertaining these views, I could not conscientiously do otherwise than as I have done respecting the formation of new Chapters, especially in view of the history of Capitular Masonry in Clinton county, a brief reference to which appears herein under the head of Mount Moriah Chapter, No. 17.

And while there may be, and no doubt are, some cases of individual hardship occasioned by the course I have indicated and followed, I am still convinced that the permanent good of Capitular Masonry will be promoted by adhering to that course in the future.

In quite a number of localities, efforts have been made to constitute new Chapters, but as I have not encouraged the presentation of any requests for dispensations, the result has been that only the four hereinafter described have been formally presented to me."

He granted two out of the four applications for new Chapters.

On the prerogatives of his office, he says:—

"So far as I am advised there are no ancient regulations, ancient customs, or special prerogatives appertaining to the office of Grand High Priest which give that officer any power or right to do any act against the letter or spirit of that constitution. In other words, the "common law" of Royal Arch Masonry is abrogated wherever it comes in conflict with that constitution.

And as the Grand High Priest holds his office under and by virtue of that constitution, it follows, as a matter of course, that he cannot rise higher than his source; and that he cannot grant a dispensation to do a thing which the constitutions and laws of this Grand Chapter say shall not be done, nor can he authorize an act to be done in a certain way when this Grand Chapter has provided that it shall be performed in another or different way."

Last year, this Grand Chapter ordered the appointment of a grand lecturer. We give the proceedings thereon, as they appear in the address of Comp. Varnum, in full, as the matter is one of very considerable importance:—

"By the adoption of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence of the last Grand Annual Convocation, your Grand Council were 'authorized and instructed to appoint and commission a representative of said Grand Chapter, whose duty it shall be, under such rules and regulations as the Grand Council shall prescribe, to visit, at least once during his term of office, and

inspect and instruct the constituent Chapters of this jurisdiction. The term of said representative shall be two years. The salary shall be such as may be agreed upon by the Grand Council, and paid upon the order of the M. E. Grand High Priest.'

This was the only instruction given to your chief officers; and, as will be readily seen, upon them fell the duty of securing some one competent to carry out the expressed intention of this Grand Chapter and fixing his salary, as well as the more important duty of determining the rules, regulations, and methods by which the system of inspection and instruction should be made thorough and effective.

In short, by the action of the Grand Chapter, the methods to be pursued and objects to be attained were left almost wholly to the discretion of the Grand Council.

In the performance of the duty thus imposed, and the power thus conferred, the Grand Council met at the office of the Grand Secretary, in Des Moines, on November 18th, 1884, and elected Companion D. S. Deering, of Aholiab Chapter, No. 21, as such representative and visitor, and fixed his salary at \$3 per day and expenses for time actually employed in making such inspections and giving such instructions.

The Grand Council then issued a commission to Companion Deering, constituting him Grand Lecturer, and empowering him to carry out the expressed will of this Grand Chapter.

As this commission contains the rules, regulations, and instructions given to the Grand Lecturer, it is reproduced here.

'GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF IOWA. }
'OFFICE OF THE GRAND SECRETARY, }
'DES MOINES, NOVEMBER 18th, 1884. }

'To Companion David S. Deering, Aholiab Chapter, No. 21, Independence, Iowa:

'At the Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Iowa, held at Fort Dodge, October 7th and 8th last, the office of Grand Lecturer for the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter was created.

'The appointment of such officer was vested in the Grand Council, who, at a meeting of said Council held at Des Moines this day, deemed it advisable to elect you as such Grand Lecturer.

'The office in this jurisdiction is a new one, and is created with the hope that the subordinate Chapters will be greatly benefitted by the system adopted, and Royal Arch Masons in the jurisdiction generally made to profit thereby.

'The Grand Council, being desirous of extending to you all assistance in their power to make the system now adopted a successful one, herewith append sundry recommendations and instructions which may be of some advantage, as well as guide in the performance of the duties of the office to which you have been elected:

'*First.* In entering upon the duties of Grand Lecturer, it is expected that you will make yourself proficient in the ritual or work, as authorized by the Grand Chapter in conferring the degrees of the order, which will include all degrees from Mark Master to that of Select Master.

'*Second.* It will devolve upon you to personally visit the various con-

stituent Chapters in the jurisdiction at least once during the term for which you have been appointed, taking care to visit such Chapters the earliest whose condition would seem to indicate that prompt attention was required.

'Third. We would advise that you give due notice to the Chapters of your intended visitation, for what purpose, that they may prepare for inspection, and to furnish candidates, if possible, upon whom the work of the several degrees may be exemplified.

'Fourth. The time to be spent with any one Chapter will be left to your own judgement and discretion.

'Fifth. In the inspection of a Chapter there are many things to be considered, some of which we would enumerate. Such as location, the size of the town, its prospects of growth as well as of business, the character of the inhabitants, etc., all of which has more or less bearing upon the prosperity of a Chapter.

'Sixth. It will be well, while visiting a Chapter, to note the manner of your reception by the officers and members, observe if your presence among them seems desirable, and a desire on their part to assist in the work as well as to receive instructions.

'Seventh. The hall and apartments of the Chapter you will thoroughly inspect, particularly noting the security of the same, as well as surroundings, and when you find insecure halls or apartments, it will be your province to urge such action on the part of the Chapter as will remedy all such defects.

'Eighth. The furnishing of halls, including the paraphernalia used in conferring the degrees, you will rigidly inspect, and when found deficient, you will request the same to be supplied, so far at least as is necessary to do work in a creditable manner.

'Ninth. The departments of a Secretary and Treasurer of a Chapter you will give the closest inspection. The importance of these two departments to the subordinate body is too well known to you to require any particular instructions from the Grand Council, but we urge a thorough scrutiny of the records and books of accounts, and where they are found deficient in any respect, you will give such instructions as in your judgement is necessary, and thoroughly impress upon the Secretary the absolute necessity of a well kept record of the proceedings of his Chapter, as well as accurately kept accounts of the financial department thereof.

'Tenth. The subject of ritual and work is one of the greatest importance connected with the office of Grand Lecturer. As such officer you will be regarded as authority in all matters pertaining to the work and the exemplification thereof, and it will be your duty to correctly exemplify the same in the presence of the members of the Chapter; to instruct both officers and members; to correct errors or any irregularities that may exist, that in the end uniformity as well as credibility in the work may obtain throughout the jurisdiction.

'The following Chapters will require your earliest attention, as their reports show that no work has been done during the year just closed:

'Nos. 5, 7, 8, 11, 20, 23, 24, 25, 28, 30, 35, 37, 42, 44, 45, 56, 61, 67, 71, 72, 75, 76, 81, 82, 83, 89.

'And the following Chapters have exalted but one team during the year:

'Nos. 2, 4, 19, 27, 29, 31, 33, 36, 40, 41, 46, 50, 51, 57, 59, 62, 63, 68, 69, 78, 79, 85, 90, 91, 97, 98.

'That a record of the Grand Lecturer's inspection may be kept for reference, we have prepared a blank form of report for you to fill up when your work with a Chapter closes. The blank will show you what is wanted, and it is desirable that in making up this report it should be full and complete as possible, and when completed (which should be directly after your labors with a Chapter end), you will forward the same to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter, at Des Moines, Iowa.

'For compensation of Grand Lecturer, the Grand Council approve the following :

'Three (3) dollars per day and necessary expenses incurred for actual time employed in service as Grand Lecturer. You will also keep an itemized account of all expenses incurred as Grand Lecturer, reporting the same in detail on the blank form furnished you.

'Should any constituent Chapter offer to pay the expenses of the Grand Lecturer, you will accept the same, giving the Grand Chapter credit therefor, and you will report the amount received, and from what Chapter.

'With the foregoing instructions the Grand Council are greatly encouraged, and believe that your advent as Grand Lecturer among the constituent Chapters of this jurisdiction will be productive of much good to Capitular and Cryptic Masonry. And you may be assured that a cordial co-operation on the part of the Grand Council can be relied upon.

'Any information or instructions that you may need from time to time will be freely accorded you on application to the M. E. Grand High Priest.

'And for the execution and carrying out of the plan of inspection and instruction of the several constituent Chapters in the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, the Grand Council of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Iowa does hereby commission you, Companion David S. Deering, of Aholiab Chapter, No. 21, Grand Lecturer of Royal Arch Masons of Iowa, under and in accordance with the action of said Grand Chapter.

'By order of the Grand Council.

'CLARK VARNUM,

'Grand High Priest.

'Attest :

'JOHN C. PARISH, *Grand Secretary.*'

Immediately thereafter the Grand Council prepared and caused to be sent to the constituent Chapters circular-letters informing them of the action taken by this Grand Chapter, and of the appointment and commissioning of the Grand Lecturer, and asking the co-operation of the Chapters to make this new departure a success.

Such letter was as follows :

'GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF IOWA. }
'OFFICE OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST, }
'NEWTON, November 25th, 1884. }

'To the E. High Priest and Companions of—Chapter No.—R. A. M.

'GREETING.—At the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of Iowa, held at Fort Dodge, October 7th and 8th last, the Grand High Priest in his annual address recommended the adoption of some plan for visitation and inspection of subordinate Chapters by an authorized representative of this Grand Chapter, etc. The recommendation was referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence, who,

after due consideration, made the following report with recommendation, which was adopted by the Grand Chapter.

(Here follows copy of report and recommendation of Committee on Jurisprudence, as adopted by this Grand Chapter. See page 118, proceedings of 1884).

The foregoing report and recommendation having been adopted by the Grand Chapter, the Grand Council, in obedience thereto, met at the Grand Secretary's office, on the 18th inst., at Des Moines, and perfected the plan recommended, and elected E. Companion David S. Deering, of Aholiab Chapter, No. 21, of Independence, Iowa, as the representative of this Grand Chapter, who will be recognized as the authorized Inspector and Grand Lecturer, whose duty it will be to visit the various constituent Chapters of this Grand Jurisdiction, at such time as he shall elect, and make a thorough inspection of any and all things that may have any bearing or connection with the prosperity or adversity of the Chapter, among which is enumerated :

- ' 1st. Location of Chapter.
- ' 2nd. Population of town or city.
- ' 3rd. Prospect of increase of population.
- ' 4th. Business, its prospects for the future.
- ' 5th. Kind of building where hall is located.
- ' 6th. In second or third story.
- ' 7th. As to its security, surroundings, and fitness.
- ' 8th. Number of lodges tributary to your Chapter.
- ' 9th. Number of members of such lodges.
- ' 10th. Number members of Chapter.
- ' 11th. Number resident members.
- ' 12th. Average attendance for the year.
- ' 13th. Amount of unpaid dues.
- ' 14th. Amount of insurance.
- ' 15th. Cost of paraphernalia, and its condition.
- ' 16th. Amount of funds in treasury.
- ' 17th. Condition of records ; how kept.
- ' 18th. Proficiency in work.
- ' 19th. Does your Chapter own, or rent hall ?

' It will be the duty of the E. High Priest and officers to assist the Grand Lecturer in the inspection—to give intelligent, and as near as possible, correct answers to above interrogatories.

' The Grand Lecturer will exemplify the work of the several degrees before the officers and members of the Chapters inspected. And it is very desirable the Chapter should have candidates in readiness when the Grand Lecturer visits you ; and it is expected that the E. High Priest, officers, and members of the Chapter will be ready to extend a cordial welcome to the Grand Lecturer, and to render all assistance possible, and by so doing make his visit among you not only a pleasant one, but all the more profitable to your Chapter, and the order of Royal Arch Masonry in general.

' Companions, we ask your attention to this circular, and your kind and fraternal co-operation in this new undertaking to put our constituent Chapters in better condition, and by so doing command honor and respect among our brethren of the Royal Craft wheresoever descended

' CLARK VARNUM,

' *Grand High Priest.*

' *Attest :*

' JNO. C. PARISH, *Grand Secretary.*' "

Companion Deering accepted the trust imposed upon him, and his official reports as Grand Lecturer will be submitted to you at this Convocation.

Full and explicit reports of the actual condition of each Chapter visited were made by him at the time of making the inspection, and are now on file in the Grand Secretary's office ready to be submitted to a committee to be appointed, or tabulated and published with the proceedings of this year.

The Chapters visited have in all instances given their cordial assistance to the Grand Lecturer, and manifested a desire for 'further light.'

Companion Deering has faithfully performed the duties assigned to him, and his work has been well and thoroughly done.

The total expense of the inspection and instruction of the fifty Chapters visited, consisting of Grand Lecturer's salary and expenses, has been only \$356.63.

It has seemed to me for a long time that some such method of cultivating Capitular Masonry in Iowa would be found to be a necessity.

If the farmer, after planting his crop, cultivate it not, his harvest is apt to be small and of inferior quality. Weeds will grow and choke the corn. Cultivation is the only way to prevent these weeds from growing. And this is as true in Masonry as in Agriculture.

This Grand Chapter has for thirty years been planting Capitular Masonry, but until within the last year it has never cultivated it on the ground where it grew. And as a consequence of this neglect of cultivation a certain amount of apathy has become apparent among our membership, which it is very desirable should be remedied.

Much of the apathy among Masons arises from poor work done by careless or unqualified officers. Most men who become Masons have sufficient interest in the order to become enthusiasts upon it if cultivated properly.

We all know that when the average Royal Arch Mason attends Chapter where the sublime scenes, teachings, and incidents of Capitular Masonry are slurred over, and the work blunderingly done, his interest in Masonry is not awakened; the moral lessons taught fall upon his ears unheeded; he goes away dissatisfied; and unless he is an enthusiast upon Masonry, he fails to attend the next Convocation.

But let the same member attend where the work is so well and thoroughly done that the story become vivid reality—where the lessons of morality are taught in such a manner that they cannot be misunderstood—and he goes home resolved to live up to those teachings; to qualify himself to teach them; and to attend every meeting of his Chapter.

Another consequence of this thirty years of neglect to cultivate Capitular Masonry in this Jurisdiction is noticeable in an increasing use of unauthorized and pernicious aids to the work of the Chapter, which are evidently intended as substitutes for authorized instruction, and as assistants to unqualified officers.

This cause of complaint should, of course, be entirely done away with.

And for the reasons given in my address of last year, it seems to me perfectly apparent that apathy cannot be changed to interest, poorly qualified officers cannot be made efficient ones, nor the use of unauthorized aids entirely dispensed with, unless by some system of inspection and instruction.

It is true that the system adopted is in a measure untried and undeveloped; that its benefits must necessarily be slow to accrue; that no present return of the amount expended during the past year can now be pointed out.

But while all this is true, I still have faith that the ultimate benefits which will accrue from a faithful carrying out of the system of instruction adopted by this Grand Chapter one year ago will far outweigh its cost, and that the moral condition and mental capacity of the Craft generally will be much improved and benefited thereby."

We also copy the report of the Grand Lecturer :—

"On the 8th day of October, 1884, the Grand Chapter, on the recommendation of the Grand High Priest, and the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, authorized and instructed the Grand Council to appoint and commission a representative of the Grand Chapter, whose duty it shall be to 'inspect and instruct the constituent Chapters in this jurisdiction.' And in pursuance of said regulation, the Grand Council did, on the 18th day of November, 1884, honor me with the appointment of Grand Lecturer and Inspector, and gave me such instructions as they deemed necessary for my government in the discharge of the duties required of me. In pursuance of such appointment and instructions, I have visited fifty constituent Chapters, and inspected their halls, books, and paraphernalia, etc., and have made detailed reports of each chapter visited to the Grand Secretary. I also append hereto an abstract of the financial condition of each Chapter visited, with the statement of the expense of such visit. I find in many of the Chapters a want of promptness in collecting the annual dues. This state of affairs I attribute to the inefficiency of the Secretary of the Chapter. And I find that in Chapters where the dues are promptly collected that there are no suspensions for non-payment of dues ; but on the contrary, where the dues are allowed to run from year to year, that suspensions are frequent. And I find several Chapters where they have been suspending members without a hearing, and without a ballot, and on the order of the High Priest alone.

I find that all the Chapters visited, but one, have more or less money in the treasury, and some have quite a large amount, and a part of the surplus funds invested and secured upon real estate security.

Very few Chapters are in debt to any amount, and these are such as have been building or fitting up new halls, and they will in a short time pay all their debts in full.

I find several Chapters whose records are in bad condition, and whose record books are not of that substantial well-bound kind that they evidently should be. In all such cases I have advised them to procure better books, as their records are of the utmost importance, and should be preserved with care.

Some of the Chapters have been in the habit of calling to refreshment in the first degrees, and then calling to labor in the other degrees without opening in form. And some call from labor from one stated convocation to another without closing, and in others, the records show that work was done in the several degrees without opening the Chapter or lodge in the degrees worked.

In all such cases I have pointed out to the High Priest and Secretary the errors, and given instructions as to the correct form of keeping the records, and called their attention to the law.

I find that where the Chapters have done no work for some time, that the officers are not well posted in the ritual, and some few have never had some parts of the ritual correct, and in all such cases I have given the

needed instructions. I have endeavored in all these cases to correct the work and impress upon the officers the necessity of a thorough knowledge of the ritual, as otherwise the candidate is not duly impressed with the importance and beauty of the lessons and instructions intended to be inculcated in the ceremonies in the several degrees.

I have conferred the Capitular degrees in sixteen Chapters—in some Chapters one degree, and in others all the degrees. I find but few Chapters that have worked the Cryptic degrees in a proper manner, and in some few none of the members have received them. In all such I have instructed the members in the ritual and work, and given such information as will enable them to work the degrees in a proper manner, which they have promised to do. I have given the Cryptic degrees in twenty-two Chapters.

Most of the Chapters visited have manifested a desire for further instruction in the work. And some of them have been erroneously taught, and have thereby run into errors, and are anxious to have the same corrected by the proper authority, so that they may know what to rely upon.

The officers of many Chapters are well posted in the ritual, and do the work in a very correct manner; whilst others are deficient, and have not that knowledge of the ritual that they should have to enable them to do the work in a proper manner.

If the degrees are not conferred with that solemnity and decorum that the lessons are intended to teach, the candidate looks upon the whole proceeding as a farce, rather than as a lesson to be remembered and practiced.

I look upon the teachings of Masonry as lessons of serious import, and such as should be the rule and guide of the life of the person receiving them.

My reception by the Chapters has been very cordial in all cases, and the Companions have manifested a desire for information, not only in the work in the several degrees, but also in Masonic jurisprudence and Masonic history, and I have urged upon them the necessity of informing themselves by the study of these subjects, and informed them how works upon the subjects can be procured.

We admire the thorough business-like manner in which this matter was gone into and the systematic way in which it was conducted all the way through. Considering the small amount of expense incurred, the results of this experiment are eminently satisfactory.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported as follows, and the report was adopted:—

TO THE M. E. GRAND CHAPTER OF THE STATE OF IOWA :

“Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence has the following questions submitted to them for their decision :

First. Is it proper to open in any degree for work without first opening in the Royal Arch degree, and then call off to open in the degree in which the work is to be done.

Second. Can work be done in any degree without having the constitutional number—nine members—present.

Your committee is of the opinion that it is proper to open on any degree in the Chapter for work, with the constitutional number of members pres-

ent constituting that degree—which is eight or more in the M. M., three or more in the P. M., two or more in the M. E., and nine or more in the Royal Arch—without first opening in the Royal Arch grade.”

Comp. John C. Parish, the Grand Secretary, reports on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1885.

M. E. Comp. Sylvester S. Bean, (Creston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John C. Parish, (Des Moines,) G. S.

KANSAS.

The 20th Convocation was held at Emporia, February 17th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Geo. S. Green, G. H. P.

The address is good. From the opening remarks on the condition of the Royal Craft, we take the following :

“The progress Royal Arch Masonry has made in this jurisdiction has been the wonder of sister Grand Chapters. The boundless waste of a generation ago has become the homes of more than a million of people. Our growth as a fraternity has kept pace with the State, notwithstanding the fact that but two decades ago we had our birth, we are now pointed to as of ‘full age’ and ‘well established.’ While the year past has not been one of marked progress for us, we have done reasonably good work ; and yet there is room for improvement, and a suggestion here may not be out of place.

I fear that in many of the Chapters the work is not done as it should be ; in conferring the degrees there is a disposition to regard the time as an opportunity for *fun*, rather than for the inculcation of the true spirit of Royal Arch Masonry.

The work ought not to be passed over lightly, the lectures should be given and imparted to the candidates so that they could work their way into the Chapters of this and other Jurisdictions.

I fear this matter has been sadly neglected in some of the Chapters of this Jurisdiction. Each High Priest has it within his power, to a very great extent, to remedy this existing evil.

The companion who receives in keeping the Jewel of High Priest of his Chapter, accepts a sacred trust, and it is a duty which he owes alike to himself and the exalted position which he is called upon to fill, to see that that trust is sacredly kept and transmitted unsullied to his successor. To do this, he must *govern* his Chapter, not only during the stated Convocations, but more especially during the introduction of strangers among the workmen.”

He formed one new Chapter.

Washington was recognized.

Quebec was sustained.

The following resolution was adopted as a standing regulation :—

“Resolved, That the practice of some Chapters of conferring the Past Master's degree upon an Actual Master elect of a subordinate lodge, in this Grand Jurisdiction, is irregular and not in accordance with the law and usages of Royal Arch Masonry, and such practice is hereby strictly forbidden, and any Chapter violating this standing regulation shall be subjected to discipline the same as for any other Masonic offence.

The Grand Secretary is also the Reporter on Foreign Correspondence. Canada for 1884 receives an extensive notice.

M. E. Comp. Jacob Dewitt, (Salina,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John H. Brown, (Wyandotte,) G.S.

The 21st Convocation was held at Topeka, February 16th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. Jacob Dewitt, G. H. P.

His address has the following reference to the Deputy Grand High Priest, who was afterwards elected Grand High Priest, while absent, and who was to be installed on his return home in the early spring :—

“Our beloved friend and Companion, Andrew M. Callaham, your D. G. H. P., is not with us to-day ; we miss his warm-hearted welcome, his cheering smile, and we shall still miss more, his counsel and assistance in our deliberations. He is in a distant city, searching for that best of earth's blessings—health. Let us remember him in our devotions, and pray that he may soon return to his home, refreshed and strengthened, to share in the honors as well as the duties of his place among us.

Our Royal Craft has experienced a season of prosperity ; our numbers continue to increase, and our subordinate Chapters have shown a degree of progress and proficiency highly to be commended. A reference to the reports of our Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, herewith submitted, will fully bear me out in this.”

Comp. Dewitt issued dispensations for four new Chapters, and recommends as follows, being a continuation of the practice followed by himself :—

“In this connection, I venture to make this recommendation : That hereafter no new Chapter be organized until the Companions petitioning shall furnish a certificate from some E. Companion of known experience, that the petitioners had been thoroughly instructed, and that they are in possession of the authorized work.

This may be deemed an innovation, but I think the adoption of such a standing regulation would be of inestimable benefit to the Craft. It would be, moreover, in harmony with our practice in the Grand Lodge. The simple resolution of the nearest Chapter that the Companions are qualified is too indefinite, and we all know how easy it is sometimes to adopt a resolution.”

Comp. Dewitt mentions the receipt of his commission as Grand Representative of the Grand Chapter of Canada.

We copy his decisions :—

“ But few questions have been submitted for my decision. Our Companions are becoming more and more learned in the law. The following are the most important :

1. The P. M. degree must be conferred upon each candidate separately.

2. In the M. M. M. degree, candidates must be obligated separately ; the history and subsequent lecture may be communicated to several at the same time.

3. In the M. E. M. degree, candidates must be obligated singly, the dedication part of the ceremony may be conferred upon several at the same time.

4. A candidate for advancement may be examined as to proficiency at a special communication, if called for that purpose, and the Companions have been duly notified of the same.

5. A petitioner for a new Chapter need not of necessity be affiliated with a lodge. In this connection I desire to express my disapproval of the custom which seems to be growing, of printing Masonic emblems on business cards, or cards of business canvassers. It has, in my opinion, a tendency to make merchandise of the Craft.”

From the Report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, we learn that when a brother is expelled by his Lodge, the only report necessary to be made in such cases in the Chapter is through the annual returns of Chapters to the Grand Chapter, the name of the Brother when he is also a member of a Chapter being erased from the rolls of his Chapter.

The Report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary, and notices Canada for 1885. In his notice of Illinois, we find the following on Quebec :—

“ Though we regard the General Grand Chapter in many respects as very inefficient, considering the powers which it retains, yet, since the Grand Chapter of Kansas regards it as the head of the Order in this country, and since the former, not the latter, recognized the Grand M. M. M. Lodge of England, the Grand Chapter of Kansas deemed it a matter of becoming deference to await the action of that Grand Body. Had the Grand Chapter of Kansas ever recognized the said Grand Lodge it would, upon due information of its invasion of the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, have withdrawn such recognition. and interdicted all intercourse between its members and subordinates, and the members and subordinates of said Grand Lodge. The views of our Grand Chapter, respecting the attitude of Quebec in the impending controversy, were clearly set forth in the report of which the above mentioned resolution forms a part, and to-day are unchanged.

Should the General Grand Chapter, as its next convocation, not withdraw recognition of said Grand Lodge, and not interdict intercommunication between the members of each body and their respective subordinates, upon failure of the latter to withdraw the warrants of its lodges in Quebec, the Grand Chapter of Kansas, at its next convocation, will inhibit all inter-

course between itself and said Grand Lodge as well as their subordinates.

By the way, it has always seemed passing strange to the writer, that any Grand Chapter ever extended recognition to the Grand M. M. M. Lodge of England, which, in the proper sense of the phrase, is not a Capitular Body. True, it confers the degree of M. M. M., which is one of the four degrees conferred in Chapters, and it is also true that it confers another—"Royal Ark Mariner"—a recent invention to catch seafaring men, and wholly unknown to Capitular Bodies in North America. or, so far as we can learn, anywhere else, except to the Supreme Grand Chapter of Scotland and its subordinates. In our opinion, a Grand Chapter could, with quite as much propriety, recognize the Grand Lodge of England, which retains and through its private lodges confers the R. A. degree as the said Grand M. M. M. Lodge.

The Grand R. A. Chapter of Virginia wisely refused its recognition, and, at its last convocation, re-affirmed its refusal. This Grand Chapter, though not belonging to the Royal Family under the General Grand Chapter, has from the beginning acted in this respect with dignity and consistency. Now, since sufficient cause has been given, let others imitate the example; that is, let those Grand Chapters which have recognized said Grand Lodge revoke recognition, and then let all refuse it in future, and fortify such refusal by prohibiting, under pain of discipline, all Masonic intercourse between the Companions of their respective Jurisdictions and said Grand Lodge, including the members of its subordinates.

Our reviewer thinks it strange that we have 'failed to discover that there never can be a duly constituted Masonic body beyond the lodge.' Such we admit to be true, and our failure may be attributed to two causes: First, because we belong to that class of Masons who are not 'fond of technicalities and speculation,' and secondly, because no such fact exists. The lodge is no more duly constituted than other genuine Masonic bodies; all are human contrivances for improving man's social and moral condition, and while the lodge in its one degree was in the beginning the first contrivance agreed to by man for the attainment of those ends, other plans were devised by other men to enlarge the sweep, depth and height of the former, and bodies were constituted thereunder by coequal authority, the agreement of men. The sanctions under which one exists and operates are no greater nor more valid than those which justify the existence of the others."

M. E. Comp. Andrew M. Callaham (Topeka), G.H.P.

R. E. Comp. John H. Brown (Wyandotte), G. S.

KENTUCKY,

The 70th Convocation was held at Louisville, October 20th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Charles E. Dunn. G. H. P.

He thinks that the cause of the lack of interest in the Chapters is because they do nothing but confer degrees. Some of the Chapters are strong and flourishing, others have as good officers, well qualified to do the work, but the members do not encourage them by their attendance and the consequence is a weak Chapter instead of a strong one.

On their Masonic Home, he says :—

"June 17th I received an invitation to attend the celebration of "St. John's Day," June 24th, at Central Park, in the interest of the Masonic Home. As the representative of the Grand Chapter I was kindly received and welcomed. We had a pleasant and enjoyable day, and the 'Home' a profitable one, as the General Committee reports a net profit of three thousand one hundred and seventy-two dollars and seventy-five cents turned over to the Secretary of the Home as the results.

In this connection I would urge you, all that can, to pay a visit to the Home while in the city, and would ask you, in behalf of the Board of Directors, that you give them your hearty support and assistance in all their labors, but particularly in procuring homes for the larger children, especially the girls.

The Masonic Home Journal being the lowest bidder for the Grand Chapter Printing, was given the work for this year. I hope you will encourage the paper by at least one subscription, if you can not give it some portion of your printing which you need done. I hope you will give our Home paper your hearty support, and let them have what work you can."

Comp. Thomas M. Reed, the Grand Secretary of Washington Territory, was present as a distinguished visitor and was cordially welcomed.

The Committee on Constitution reported having made a partial revision and were granted further time for a final and complete report.

Washington and Dakota were recognized.

A committee of three was appointed to revise the ritual and exemplify the work at the next meeting.

Comp. Hiram Bassett reports on Correspondence and has the following on dues :—

"If Comp. Gurney will bear in mind the fact that suspension with us deprives a persons of his "*Masonry*," while the sentence is in force ; that we never suspend for non-payment of dues when a member 'can not pay ;' that we do not 'drop them from the roll,' but retain them with all their Masonic privileges in tact, he will acquit us of the charge that '*money* is the objective consideration." If he knew how strenuously we have ever opposed the use of terms that restricted Masonic charity to *dollars and cents*, he would know how fully and truly we endorse his declaration, that it 'is not a thing of silver and gold.' We can not get rid of an idea we never entertained. We have ever opposed any feature, in either Lodge or Chapter, that smacked of the *insurance* fallacy ; and we are not conscious of ever having lost sight of the fundamental doctrine that all promises to 'help, aid and assist' are purely personal, and depend upon the individual estimate of the applicant's worth. Nevertheless, whether all this has anything to do with it or not, we cannot help believing that one who persistently violates an obligation he is abundantly able to keep, should not be merely suspended from membership in Lodge or Chapter, and let go forth

as of 'the household of the faithful'—a Mason without blemish and without reproach."

Canada for 1885 is fraternally noticed.

M. E. Comp. Bernard G. Witt, (Henderson,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Jos. H. Branham, (Louisville,) G. S.

LOUSIANA.

The 39th Convocation was held at New Orleans, Feb'y 9th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. Alfred Shaw, G. H. P.

He reports harmony and the Chapters in general sound condition excepting a few specially mentioned by the Grand Secretary.

Two Chapters in New Orleans had amalgamated.

Comp. John D. Hammond, the Grand Secretary of Nevada, was present as a visitor, and was appropriately received.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Joseph P. Horner, and it acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Canada for 1883-4-5. In his review of Georgia, Comp. Horner has the following excellent advice:—

"We commend every word of the foregoing to every officer of every Chapter in this jurisdiction. Why are so many of our subordinates languishing from the neglect of their members? The reply invariably is that they have no work, and they therefore complain that the Companions will not attend merely to see the Chapter opened and closed; and how can we blame them for such non-attendance under such circumstances? We cannot, because, the excuse that the Chapter has no work, is not true, has no foundation in fact. A Masonic body is never without work, there is always something for it to do, just as certainly as it was made to do something, and not to be idle as if it had no purpose for its existence, no end to attain, except to make new members. Its end and purpose is to inculcate the beauties and virtues of Masonry, and to each and impress the glorious truths of our vocation. Let each of our Chapters work in one or more of the degrees every time they meet, let the lectures be rehearsed so that every member takes his part, and the attendance will soon increase; none of us are so learned in our noble art but that something may be gained by seeing the work again performed, and only by constant repetition can that excellence and perfection in it be attained, by which alone we can hope to triumphantly impress our doctrines upon the minds of novitiates. We have found by a strict attention to such a course of business, by always having some work to perform, even without candidates, that members would come up who had not been present for years, who would gladly participate, and finally become among the best attendants; let your companions know that something is going to be done, and your tabernacles will soon once more be crowded, and when that happens, real work will be

presented for your acceptance in such quantity and of such qualities that you may readily have your choice of the very best material possible to be obtained :

“ Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate ;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.”

There will be no trouble, in pursuing such a course, to find companions who will readily agree to represent candidates : none of us could see our beautiful degrees too often conferred, and is manifest that all would be benefitted thereby who might participate therein either actively or passively. The great secret for the officers of our subordinate Chapters is to make their meetings attractive ; if it were possible that the pursuance of the course we have indicated should ever get tiresome, arrange to have interesting lectures upon Masonic or kindred subjects delivered from time to time by members or visitors competent to give and impart instruction, or to have such lectures read by the officers ; but above all things keep the ball moving, do not let it halt for even a single meeting, so that each one of your companions who may be at any time prevented from attending, shall feel that he has incurred a loss which he would not willingly have happen a second time ; thus some of our great aims may be attained, and our fraternal ties riveted still more closely.”

He fully upholds the position taken by Quebec against the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

M. E. Comp. Denison Stocking, (Bayou Sara,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. C. Batchelor, (New Orleans,) G. S.

MAINE.

The 60th Convocation was held at Portland, May 5th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Frank E. Sleeper, G. H. P.

39 Chartered Chapters represented out of 44.

The Grand High Priest made a large number of official visits. From his very excellent address, we take a few paragraphs :—

“ I am happy to announce that during the year now ending I have not been called upon to give any official decision of sufficient importance to be reported here. A multitude of questions have been asked me, nearly all of which might easily have been answered by the questioner himself, had he consulted the constitution, regulations, and decisions already made. After an experience of two years I assure you that a great deal of the time, and patience, too, of your presiding officers is consumed in replying to letters of inquiry which would be entirely unnecessary if the officers of Chapters were furnished with regulations and decisions in convenient form. I recognized that fact last year when I recommended the preparation of a

CHAPTER TEXT BOOK,

and hoped to see it published during the year. Unfortunately for the work, I was appointed chairman of a committee raised for that purpose.

Pressure of professional duties has prevented my giving that attention to the matter which it deserves, so that I can only renew the recommendation made last year.

BY-LAWS.

Several Chapters have forwarded to me proposed changes in their by-laws, some of which have been approved, others returned for amendment. I am satisfied that the regulation requiring proposed changes to be submitted to the Grand High Priest is a wise one. In several instances I found by-laws inconsistent with the Constitution, or destructive to the prosperity of the Chapter. I will give as an example the case of one Chapter, which several years ago adopted a by-law making honorary members of all those who paid one dollar a year for five years, while another by-law exempted honorary members from the payment of all dues and assessments! The natural result has followed. More than two-thirds of the members are now honorary members, while all the expense of maintaining the Chapter rests upon a few, a condition of things which seriously threatens the very existence of the Chapter. At my suggestion the obnoxious by-laws have been repealed, and the lapse of time will bring the natural remedy. The by-laws of most Chapters fix their Annual Convocations on the stated Convocation of a certain month. It sometimes happens that there will be two stated convocations during the same calendar month. Several times the question has been asked me, 'Which of the two meetings will be our annual?' and to avoid all doubt in future, I suggest the adoption of some such standing regulation as the following:

'Resolved, That if the Annual Convocation of any Chapter fall upon a month in which two stated Convocations occur, the first one shall be considered the annual.'

I also recommend the Grand Chapter to allow any officer below Scribe to resign.

DISPENSATIONS.

May 8, 1884, I received an application for a dispensation to allow Jerusalem Chapter to ballot and confer the degrees in less than the required time; and on May 12th I received an application of like tenor from Winthrop Chapter. In both instances the reason given was the desire of the candidates to obtain the degrees 'as soon as possible.' I am not a believer in hurrying a candidate through any degree in Masonry before he has had time, and has shown a disposition to make himself acquainted, at least partially, with the principles and lessons of that which precedes it. Especially do I object to haste in the case of those who delay sending in their petitions for the degrees until the last moment, and then ask to receive them as soon as possible. Dispensations refused. * * *
After devoting so much time last year to the revision of the ritual, I naturally anticipated some difficulty at first in securing its correct working in our Chapters, but I was entirely unprepared for the chief difficulty with which I have had to contend, its transmission to Chapters desiring it.

The Grand officers have endeavored to impart correct instruction when making their official visits, and the standard work is now being generally adopted, and so far as I have been informed is univerrally approved in our jurisdiction.

Acting under the instruction given by the Grand Chapter last May, I have caused the standard ritual to be prepared in such form that no controversy can hereafter arise as to the correct rendering of any portions of it."

The other members of the Grand Council and District Deputies also made full reports, giving details of the condition of the various Chapters.

The following was adopted as a standing regulation :—

“ Resolved, That when under the by-laws of any Chapter, its annual meeting falls in a month in which there are two stated meetings, the first shall be deemed the annual meeting ;—and when it falls in a month wherein there is no stated meeting the stated meeting next before such month shall be deemed the annual meeting of such Chapter.”

We are glad to notice the introduction of an amendment to the Constitution, permitting officers to resign. it was entertained and referred to a special committee :—

“ Any officer of a subordinate Chapter, except the High Priest, King and Scribe, who is in good standing and against whom no charges exist, may resign. Whenever any such vacancy occurs it may be filled at any stated convocation of such Chapter.”

Comp. Josiah H. Drummond submitted his Annual Report on Correspondence, in which appears a notice of Canada for 1884 and this compliment :—

As usual, the reports of the District Superintendents are full, and show in almost every case a very commendable earnestness, fidelity and energy in the discharge of their duty by these officers, and, we may also add, conclusive evidence of the good effect of such a discharge of their duties. As a whole, the Chapters are prosperous ; there are some exceptions, which seem largely due to the decadence of the towns in which the Chapters are located.

It gives us special pleasure to note the flourishing condition of the Chapters in Manitoba and the interest of the Companions, which must keep them prosperous.”

This report is more than usually interesting. We have marked a great number of passages that we would like our Companions to read, but fear that we may not have space for all. Comp. Drummond believes that one of the greatest drawbacks on the prosperity of the craft in a new Jurisdiction is the premature formation of too many bodies. On the necessity of the presence of the warrant at all meetings, he says :—

“ If a legislature gives the Governor authority to convey a piece of land, it don't recite the deed ; and the land is not conveyed by the act, but only when the deed is made and delivered. The deed once delivered is good, whether lost or not ; and that question is not involved ; the real question is, whether Masonic law, growing out of immemorial usage, does not require the actual presence of the charter ; we think it does ; and to this, so far as we have seen, no reply has been made. If the law of the State should provide that a grant of land could be proved in court only by the production

of the original deed, we think neither Comp. Larner nor Comp. Gurney would hold that as the deed was mere evidence, a copy would be just as good, in the face of that law ; so in case of the charter, the Masonic law is that it must be present, and our views of the wisdom or unwisdom of the law does not change it a tittle."

Comp. Drummond is strong in the belief of the thoroughly Masonic character of the Chapter, and ably defends his position against that taken by Comp. Gurney of Illinois :—

"The position that Chapters, Councils and Commanderies are merely organizations composed of Masons, and thus on a level with Masonic Relief Associations, Veteran Associations, and the like, is directly in conflict with the history of the Institution from its earliest organization. We regard the attempt to deprive Chapters of their Masonic character and the right to use Masonic rituals, precisely as we would an attempt to confiscate their property or to deprive them of any other thing to which they have a right equal to that of the lodge. We hold, and history shows, that the Chapter has the same right to use portions of the lodge work as the lodge has, and it would be no more presumptuous for the Chapter to forbid the lodge to use them than it would be for the lodge to forbid the Chapter to use them. The same remark applies as between the Chapter and Commandery. The action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in fixing a limit to the use of rituals has been very sharply criticised, but the proposed action of Illinois goes infinitely further. The criticisms of Illinois, however, have been consistent with her proposed action.

The Chapter was organized as a continuation of blue Masonry, and the Council and Commandery were organized as continuations of Capitular Masonry. The fundamental idea of each was that it, and the degrees upon which it was founded, are one system. Each portion, however, governing its own degrees. None save a Master Mason could be a Royal Arch Mason ; as a necessity, he must prove himself in open Chapter to be a Master Mason ; as a consequence, the Chapter must know the essential qualifications of a Master Mason, and itself teach them to those of its members who may have forgotten them. The Chapter was organized as a Masonic body, using certain portions of the ritual of the lodge, one of its main objects being to give more light upon matters taught in the lodge. This was perfectly well known to the lodge, which not only acquiesced, but admitted the claims of the Chapter ; more than this, it surrendered portions of two of its degrees to become two degrees of the Chapter. From the beginning, the lodge and Chapter have walked side by side upon this foundation, the lodge recognizing the Chapter as a Masonic body and entitled to use its rituals in accordance with the common system, and the Chapter recognizing the exclusive power of the lodge over its own members and the lodge itself as the foundation of the Chapter. The same is true of the relations between the Chapter and the Commandery. It may be true that the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Illinois have never expressly committed themselves to this doctrine (although we have no doubt they both have) ; it was the fundamental law of the craft when they were formed, and it is as binding on them as upon all other Masons.

We regard the resolutions as revolutionary, and if they are adopted and the Chapters forbidden to require or use the fundamental tests of eligibility of candidates, we do not perceive how the Chapters under her obedience can be regarded as regular Chapters of Royal Arch Masonry. When the

Grand Orient of France struck from its creed "belief in God," our Grand Lodge at once declared that it had ceased to be a Masonic body; and if the Grand Chapter of Illinois destroys the fundamental test of eligibility of candidates, we do not see why the same result would not follow and it cease to be a body propagating Royal Arch Masonry."

Under "Iowa," he says that an ancient landmark is one which has come down to us from a former generation and that there may be, and will, in the future, be sure to be ancient landmarks in Royal Arch Masonry; and he thus continues:—

"From the earliest record of conferring the Royal Arch degree, two degrees (the Excellent and Super-Excellent) preceded it. Whether one of them was not substantially the Mark degree, no one knows.

The Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania, organized in 1795, was a mere 'annex' to the Grand Lodge and under its authority, and was in no just sense a Grand Chapter.

It is true that the Grand Chapters of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut did not create the General Grand Chapter; there was a very good reason—they did not exist, and were, every one of them, created by the General Grand Chapter.

This reminds us that we forgot, in our review of Illinois, to call the attention of Bro. Gurney (as we intended to do) to the origin of Royal Arch Masonry in this country, and to the fact that for many years the degree was under the actual control of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which recognized it as a degree and the Chapter as a Masonic body. We think Comp. Gurney will have a good time in convincing our Pennsylvania brethren that their Grand Lodge for many years had, as a constituent part of its system, a body that was not a Masonic body, and one using the lodge ritual without authority!

Moreover, Bro. Hughan, in his recent very valuable work "in relation to the Royal Arch degree," speaks of an old 'Minute Book belonging to the Most Sublime degree or Order of Royal Arch, appertaining to the Grand Lodge of all England, held at the city of York, 1762,' and says that this book exhibits the fact 'that the degree was authorized by the York Grand Lodge.'

In reply to the statement of Comp. Bassett of Kentucky, that the Chair Degree is unknown to Symbolic Masonry, Comp. Drummond has the following, and we think that he is right:—

"We do not think this statement is accurate. How long a secret ceremony has been a part of the installation of the Master of a Lodge, no one can tell. We think it ante-dates the adoption of the Past Master's degree in the Chapter, and that the degree was then adopted because it was a rule of the Royal Arch degree that it could be conferred only on a Past Master, and it was desired to confer it more widely than could be done if limited to Past Masters of symbolic lodges. We have devoted much labor to the investigation and such is our conclusion. It follows, that the Chapter degree and the installation ceremony are two different things, one of which cannot be substituted for the other.

There is nothing inconsistent in having a secret installation ceremony, of which only those who have been installed have knowledge, and the Grand Lodge has no occasion to concern itself about it ; it commits the installation of Masters to those qualified, according to ancient usage, and it may well assume that they perform their duty correctly."

One more extract, and we must stop :—

"Comp. Dadmun's showing that from the organization of the first chartered lodge in America in 1733, down to the present time, the usage and the law have been that dues are paid for lodge privileges, and that the non-payment of dues simply deprived the party of lodge privileges and not of fraternity rights, has made a very strong impression, and Companions, who were at first inclined to pronounce against such law, are admitting that they cannot blame us for adhering to so ancient a usage, especially as experience shows that in practice it works at least as well as the more severe system. Until within comparatively a few years a mason could legally be a member of as many lodges as chose to admit him ; and of course, under that system, failure to pay dues in any one of them, affected his membership only in that lodge.

As a natural result of this discussion, it is now pretty universally held that the rule of the civil law, that the *status* of a man, as determined by the law of his domicil, is his *status* everywhere, is equally law in Masonry ; subject, of course, to the provision that if he commits a crime elsewhere and is there convicted, his *status* at home will not protect him."

We again acknowledge our indebtedness to Comp. Drummand for his table of Statistics and cannot refrain from also copying the conclusion of his report :—

GRAND CHAPTERS.	Members.	Exaltations.	Admissions and Restorations.	Dimissions.	Expulsions.	Suspensions.	Sus. for Non- payment of dues.	Deaths.
Alabama.....	609	34	23	23	1	0	28	21
Arkansas.....	1,383	77	30	26	4	0	24	26
California.....	3,941	243	73	93	1	6	*68	47
Canada.....	3,734	324	50	107	0	....	*102	41
Colorado.....	1,049	142	32	41	1	5	9	9
Connecticut.....	4,244	168	41	19	1	0	51	81
Dakota.....	638	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Delaware.....	270	15	1	5	0	....	*5	4
District of Columbia....	1,185	85	21	25	0	0	49	13
Florida.....	212	12	4	4	0	....	*5	8
Georgia.....	880	100	25	37	0	....	*28	6
Illinois.....	11,967	839	167	341	32	....	*196	99
Indiana.....	4,880	368	71	148	7	14	63	69
Iowa.....	6,189	524	88	237	3	53	29	50
Kansas.....	2,579	235	53	71	1	....	*24	18
Kentucky.....	2,535	132	36	66	2	....	*79	30
Louisiana.....	725	17	7	13	0	5	17	22
Maine.....	4,301	215	31	70	0	1	57	61
Maryland.....	1,160	61	9	21	3	....	*3	17
Massachusetts.....	9,543	461	....	142	2	....	*117	101
Michigan.....	8,414	673	99	155	4	2	138	103
Minnesota.....	2,627	214	39	51	0	0	9	23
Mississippi.....	1,340	54	30	41	0	0	19	27
Missouri.....	4,791	375	92	146	0	....	*97	59
Nebraska.....	1,323	145	64	26	1	....	*13	9
Nevada.....	390	43	6	26	0	0	20	9
New Hampshire.....	2,395	119	128	18	0	0	21	42
New Jersey.....	2,704	157	30	50	1	28	17	39
New York.....	15,435	915	227	277	3	1	597	191
North Carolina.....	903	39	5	16	0	0	6	10
Nova Scotia.....	469	27	0	13	0	0	5	2
Ohio.....	10,555	824	183	186	8	....	*220	123
Oregon.....	771	73	19	23	1	1	2	6
Pennsylvania.....	10,908	809	115	98	4	....	*178	115
Quebec.....	475	51	12	22	0	0	*7	7
Rhode Island.....	1,640	58	3	2	1	0	44	18
South Carolina.....	306	15	0	4	0	0	12	5
Tennessee.....	1,949	101	23	56	2	3	51	36
Texas.....	3,582	316	90	124	5	....	*123	57
Vermont.....	2,025	82	24	24	2	....	*29	36
Virginia.....	1,274	70	26	45	0	....	*24	30
Washington.....	150	12	12	1	0	0	0	2
West Virginia.....	519	32	2	15	0	0	1	2
Wisconsin.....	3,941	203	38	67	2	....	*63	42
	140,960	9,469	2,029	2,985	92	119	2,652	1,516

*Including "excluded."

"We omit those of the General Grand Chapter as part are already included under Dakota and Washington. The statistics of Pennsylvania are those for the year ending December 27th, 1883; while those for Georgia, Nevada, Nova Scotia and Rhode Island are those given last year, no later returns being received.

The total membership is 140,960 against 137,617 in 1884, 132,737 in 1883, 128,557 in 1882, and 127,105 in 1881; the Exaltations are 9,469 against 10,639 in 1884, 10,557 in 1883, 7,424 in 1882, and 6,733 in 1881; the Admissions and Restorations are 2,029 against 2,392 in 1884, 2,202 in 1883, 1,868 in 1882, and 1,900 in 1881; the Dimissions are 2,985 against 3,093 in 1884, 3,142 in 1883, 2,818 in 1882, and 3,073 in 1881; the Expulsions are 92 against 81 in 1884, 55 in 1883, 75 in 1882, and 85 in 1881; the Suspensions (including suspensions from membership and names dropped from the roll) are 2,771 against 2,713 in 1884, 2,625 in 1883, 2,859 in 1882, and 3,762 in 1881; and the Deaths are 1,516 against 1,622 in 1884, 1,594 in 1883, 1,633 in 1882, and 1,496 in 1881." * *

"A careful examination of the various proceedings leads us to hope that the recent attempts to modernize Masonry have received a check. The plan of making it an Insurance Company has failed, and scarcely finds an advocate.

Cases, which have happened in Iowa and California, have tended to check the modern tendency to depart from the old law in relation to the powers of Grand Bodies and their executive heads.

In matters of less consequence, we find an increasing disposition to stand by the old usages of the craft.

Still, new theories have been started, and we are sorry to perceive that the spirit of innovation is still strong, one writer, whom we have always considered conservative, speaking of certain usages as 'old wives' fables.' While there is ground for encouragement, therefore, there is still call for earnest and faithful effort in order to preserve our institution in its ancient purity and simplicity.

We have had occasion to examine with some care the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England. As that Grand Lodge is the original source, or at least the successor of the original source of Masonry in this country, and has always been a very conservative body, we may well expect to find in its Constitutions the old laws of the craft. We, therefore, have taken pains to ascertain its bearing upon the questions which now agitate Masonic circles in this country.

1. The Grand Lodge is the source of all power in Masonry. It alone has the inherent power of enacting laws for the government of the craft. The proposition, which some Masons are attempting to establish, that the Grand Lodge is the creature of its subordinates, finds no support; on the contrary, under its provisions, lodges are the creatures of the Grand Lodge, and receive all the rights and powers from it.

'2. The Grand Lodge has also the power of investigating, regulating and deciding all matters relative to the craft, or to particular lodges, or to individual brothers, which it may exercise, either of itself, or by such delegated authority as, in its wisdom and discretion, it may appoint; but the Grand Lodge above has the power of erasing lodges and expelling brethren from the craft, a power it does not delegate to any subordinate authority in England.'

The original jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge to try cases of discipline, is herein expressly declared.

The significance of the words 'in England' is, that while Provincial Grand Lodges cannot exercise the power of erasure and expulsion, 'District Grand Lodges' on account of their distance from the Grand East, are given, in their respective Districts, the full powers of the Grand Lodge in relation to discipline, to be exercised 'of themselves' or by delegation.

3. No attempt is made to enumerate the powers and privileges of the Grand Master. The idea of granting power to the Grand Master is not found in the constitution. It is assumed that his powers and privileges are inherent in the office.

The only reference to them is in the provision, that in the absence of the Grand Master and Pro. Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master has 'all the powers and privileges of the Grand Master.'

4. The powers of Grand Wardens and Wardens are more limited than with us. In case of the death, etc., of the Grand Master, the Pro. Grand Master, if there is one, completes the term; if there is none, the Junior Past Grand Master, who is willing to act, succeeds to the office; but if none will accept, the Grand Wardens call a meeting of the Grand Lodge to elect a Grand Master for the remainder of the term.

If the Master die, the Senior Warden, and in his absence, the Junior Warden, and in the absence of both, the Immediate Past Master, and in his absence the Senior Past Master acts in summoning the lodge until the next installation of a Master. In the absence of the Master the Immediate Past Master, or in his absence the Senior Past Master of the lodge present, or if there is no Past Master of the lodge present, any Past Master, who is a member of the lodge, takes the chair; but if there is none present, the Wardens according to seniority, preside, but cannot take the Master's chair or confer a degree.

5. The Master Mason's degree, 'including the Supreme Order of the Holy Royal Arch,' is expressly declared to be a part of 'pure Oriental Masonry.'

We commend this to the attention of our Illinois Companions, who are asked to declare that the Royal Arch degree is not a 'Masonic' degree, and therefore that a Royal Arch Chapter is not a 'Masonic' body."

6. At each quarterly communication of the Grand Lodge, the minutes of the last quarterly and every intervening communication of the Grand Lodge are read and 'put for confirmation.'

7. While, as before stated, nothing is said in relation to the power of the Grand Master, Provincial and District Grand Masters are expressly authorized to suspend brethren from Masonic Rights. That the Grand Master is held to have the power, as an incident inherent in his office, is well known.

8. With the exception of two old lodges, every lodge must have a warrant, 'which is to be specially entrusted to the Master. for the time being, at his installation, who is responsible for its safe custody and shall produce it at every meeting of the Lodge.' If a warrant is lost, the lodge must suspend its meetings until a warrant of confirmation has been received by it.

9. Visitors can be admitted only upon voucher, examination or certificate of a Grand Lodge with proof of identity, and as we interpret the provision producing vouchers that he has been initiated in a regular lodge.

10. A lodge may 'exclude' a member, after due trial for non-payment of dues, or other cause. If such 'excluded' member apply to another lodge for admission, tho lodge must be 'made acquainted with his former

neglects,' so that the brethren may use their discretion in admitting him, and any lodge, failing to make due inquiry in such case, is 'liable to pay the arrears of such brother, if any, to the lodge from which he was excluded.

Massachusetts, Maine and some other jurisdictions retain this old law, but have added a greater limitation than the Grand Lodge of England, as a brother excluded, or deprived of membership, can be received in another lodge only upon payment or remission of all arrears.

But the constitution provides that when a brother has left a lodge in any manner, he is entitled to a certificate, stating the circumstances under which he left the lodge, and this certificate must be produced in any lodge to which he may apply for membership, before the ballot is taken upon his petition.

11. Neither lodges nor brethren can appear in public in Masonic clothing, on any occasion, without permission.

12. The ceremony for laying corner stones is given. The Grand Lodge does the work, while open as a Grand Lodge, thus appearing in public as a Grand Lodge, contrary to the doctrine recently announced in Pennsylvania, that the craft have no public Masonic ceremonies.

It is very gratifying to find the law and usage upon all these points under the jurisdiction of the mother Grand Lodge, in accord with them in our own jurisdiction. It is not strange that it is so; the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was almost contemporaneous in origin with the Grand Lodge of England, and yet derived its origin from that Grand Lodge. It would naturally maintain the same usages and laws; and the fifty years during which Masonry in Maine was governed by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts would as naturally lead us to maintain the law and usages of our 'Mother Grand Lodge.'

There is always a tendency among men to endeavor to improve everything; but it is one of the fundamental principles of Masonry, that we should hand it down to those who come after us, the same as it came to us from the fathers; and in its name, we appeal to those who would accommodate Masonry to modern methods to call a halt. lest they 'remove the ancient landmarks,' and 'make innovation in the body of Masonry.'"

M. E. Comp. Manly G. Trask, (Bangor,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Ira Berry, (Portland,) G. S.

MARYLAND.

The 33rd Convocation was held at Baltimore, November 10, 1885.

M. E. Comp. John M. Carter, G. H. P.

The membership has increased about five per cent.

His decisions involve some novel points:—

"1. Application was made by a candidate for the M. E. and R. A. degrees, accompanied by a certificate under seal but of recent date, from a Western Chapter, stating that the applicant had received therein the earlier degrees 14 years ago, and then removed from the State, and relinquishing jurisdiction in favor of the Maryland Chapter, near which the candidate has resided for two years.

Decision. If the applicant can be vouched for as the same individual named in the certificate, or can satisfactorily pass the required examination in the preceding degrees, he may be received and exalted; otherwise he must begin anew with the Mark degree.

2. In a Chapter where the fees are received in two installments a candidate paid one-half, as required, on entering several years ago. Since that time the fees have been reduced, and he now desires to proceed.

Quere. Shall he pay the balance as agreed, or at the rate now charged, or, taking the present reduced total be credited with the payment already made?

Decision. He must pay the balance as agreed at the time of his original application; both parties were bound by the contract then made.

3. An amendment was proposed to a By-Law of a Chapter where it was necessary to lie over till the next Convocation and the members to be notified of its contemplated consideration. This requirement having been complied with, an amendment to the amendment (*germane* to the subject) was carried by an insufficient majority and inadvertently declared adopted. At the next Convocation the error was discovered, the decision of the presiding officer was reversed, and the original amendment was laid over till the following Convocation.

HELD, that it was necessary to notify the members anew, as though the proposition had been offered for the first time."

We regret to notice that Comp. E. T. Schultz, Chairman of Correspondence, was not able, through illness, to be present at the meeting, and the sincere sympathy of the Grand Chapter was ordered to be conveyed to him, this being the second Convocation only for 30 years that he has failed to attend.

His report, deferring the recognition of Portugal was adopted.

No grievances were presented.

Dakota was recognized.

Notice was given of a motion to increase the revenue.

Canada for 1885 is fraternally noticed.

Comp. Schultz believes in not trying to legislate for every possible case:—

"Suppose that *all* the powers and prerogative of Grand Masters and presiding Officers of Masonic bodies were 'specifically mentioned and detailed in the Constitution.' How long would they be suffered to remain 'specifically' defined before the Constitutional 'Tinkers' would *try* to enlarge, abridge or *improve* them generally?

We have more than once expressed the sentiment: that if we had the power we would give all our modern Constitutions to the flames and have our institution governed wholly by the ancient charges and regulations.

These with a few local regulations are all the law necessary for the government of any body claiming to be Masonic. If this course could be

adopted, we would not hear the new fangled doctrines annunciated or see regulations adopted, which are so rapidly modernizing our time-honored fraternity to the level of the associations of the day. Then, the ancient charges and regulations would be studied by Masters and those called upon to preside over our Masonic bodies, and decisions would be rendered in accordance therewith. Should a case be presented not specifically provided for by the ancient regulations, a decision would be rendered by analogy drawn therefrom.

This attempt to legislate for every little emergency that arises or which it is supposed may arise creates confusion and leads to the adoption of regulations in violation of the Cardinal principles of Masonry."

M. E. Comp. John M. Carter, (Baltimore,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo. L. McCahan, (Baltimore,) G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

At a quarterly Convocation, held on March 10, 1885, it was resolved that all fraternal intercourse with the Grand Mark Lodge of England should be suspended until that Grand Lodge should revoke its warrants granted to Mark Lodges in Quebec.

The New Grand Chapter of Dakota was recognized and welcomed to the sisterhood.

Another quarterly Convocation was held on June 9, 1885, at which the death was announced of their Grand Secretary, Comp. Z. H. Thomas, who was

"Well-known in Masonic circles for a period of 27 years, where, from his first admission, he became conspicuous for ritualistic and clerical abilities, and these he actively employed in the many and respective stations he has filled.

In his death, the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts has lost a diligent and efficient officer, the members a kind friend and Companion, and the whole fraternity a true and zealous brother."

An election was held to fill the vacant office, which resulted in the nearly unanimous choice of Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, a P. G. H. P., and the present General Grand High Priest.

On September 8th, 1885, an amendment to the particular regulations was adopted as follows:—

"No Chapter in this jurisdiction shall exalt a candidate to the Sublime degree of Royal Arch Mason until he shall have selected and recorded his Mark."

The 85th Annual Convocation was held at Boston, on the 8th day of December, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Fred. T. Comee, G. H. P., reports perfect harmony and brighter prospects.

The work in all the degrees was exemplified by the Grand Lecturers and their assistants in a most satisfactory manner.

Our proceedings for 1885 receive careful attention at the hands of Comp. J. W. Dadmun. From his notice of Kansas, we learn that in Massachusetts, when a suspended or expelled Master Mason is restored, he is restored to general Masonic rights, but not to membership in his lodge—he becomes a non-affiliated Mason in good standing.

Under the head of Maine, he says :—

“It is worse than useless for those correspondents who started out, in this discussion, on the principle that ‘suspension is suspension, pure, simple and absolute,’ to kick against the pricks. It would be far better for them frankly to admit that they did not know anything about the old Masonic law and usage on that subject.

In addition to the by-laws we have, in times past, quoted from some of the oldest lodges in Europe and America, on the subject of suspension or deprivation of membership, we will now quote from the first code of by-laws of Columbian Lodge, Boston, which was constituted in 1796 :

‘Art. III. Sec. 2. Any member about to leave town for one or more years may, at his own request, have his *membership suspended*, provided his periodical dues are paid ; but from the time of *suspension* all his *privileges of membership* shall cease, until, on his return, he shall, in writing, inform the lodge of his wish to exercise the *rights of membership*.’

‘Sec. 3. Any member neglecting to pay his periodical dues for eighteen months may be *suspended or expelled from the rights of membership* by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.’ (Italics ours).

The foregoing quotations from the by-laws of Columbian Lodge show that ‘suspension of *membership*’ is no ‘new-fangled notion’ in New England and elsewhere, and that the assertion ‘that suspension of membership is actually impossible will soon ‘fade, fade away’ under the brilliant light of Masonic history.”

And on the same subject, under Nevada :—

“There are two or three things we want Comp. Hammond to get out of his head. One is, that being deprived of ‘all privileges of the lodge’ does not ‘in any manner affect one’s standing,’ which some have persistently asserted to be the law in Massachusetts. It *does* ‘prohibit visitation,’ except by special permission of a lodge. It was the by-laws of ‘Ye Lodge of ye Bear,’ England (1746), that admitted one ‘stricken from the roll’ as a ‘visitor.’ In a word, if we should change the phraseology so that ‘suspension from membership’ would be ‘*dropped from the roll until his dues were paid or remitted,*’ it would convey a clear idea of our practice for one hundred and fifty years. With us, ‘suspension of membership’ is perfectly intelligible. Under the head of Maine, we have quoted from the by-laws of Columbian Lodge a very interesting rule upon this subject, which was in force nearly a hundred years ago.”

M. E. Comp. Fred. T. Comee, (Boston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Alfred F. Chapman, (Boston,) G. S.

MICHIGAN.

The 37th Convocation was held at Detroit, January 19th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. W. Irving Latimer, G. H. P., reports three new Chapters.

The following amendment to the constitution was read and laid over till next year :—

“ Should objection be made to the advancement of a candidate after he shall have received one of the Chapter degrees, it shall be the duty of the High Priest to order the companion so objecting to file written charges forthwith, and the Chapter shall proceed to investigate said charges, and if same shall not be proven, the degrees shall be conferred upon said companion as if no charges had been made, but should charges be proven, then the companion may be further advanced only as provided for under section 9, article 10, of the grand constitution.”

Companion John W. Moore, High Priest of Monroe Chapter No. 1, by vote of his Chapter, submitted the following resolution, which, on motion, was accepted, and on further motion to adopt same was declared lost and the resolution rejected :

‘ *Resolved*, That so much of the Penal Code as relates to expulsion for non-payment of dues be stricken out.’ ”

We think that the resolution should have been adopted. Expulsion is the greatest penalty and should be reserved for the gravest offences.

A large amount of local business was transacted, the session lasting two days.

The report on Correspondence is by the Grand Secretary and it covers no less than 228 pages.

Canada for 1885 is kindly noticed.

M. E. Comp. Daniel Striker, (Hastings,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Wm. P. Innes, (Grand Rapids,) G. S.

MISSOURI.

The 38th Convocation was held at St. Louis, May 7, 1885

M. E. Comp. C. C. Woods, G. H. P., reports three new Chapters.

The following report of the Committee on Masonic Home was adopted :—

“ We pledge the Grand Lodge our hearty co-operation in the laudable undertaking of finding homes for the widows and orphans of our departed brethren, and urge upon the Grand Lodge prompt action to the end, that ample provisions may be promptly made for the care and comfort of

those dependent on the Masonic fraternity ; assuring the Committee from the Grand Lodge that this Grand Chapter will do her full duty."

A revised constitution was considered and adopted.

The Grand Lecturer thus concludes his report :—

"I have instructed the officers, or a portion of them, particularly H. P.'s C. H.'s and P. S's., of a large number of other Chapters ; but of this no detailed account could be given without occupying too much space in this report. It has been my endeavor to try to acquaint myself thoroughly with the condition of the various Chapters, and I think I can truly say that a majority of them are in a fair condition. Several have been doing little or no work, and are in a somewhat lethargic state. The Chapters are, with few, if any, exceptions, properly equipped. Perfect peace and harmony, so far as I have been able to learn, prevail throughout the jurisdiction."

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence, and reviews the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Canada for 1884, giving large extracts from the address of our Grand Z., M. E. Comp. Henry Macpherson.

M. E. Comp. Lee A. Hall, (St. Louis,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Wm. H. Mayo, (St. Louis,) G. S.

NEBRASKA.

The 19th Convocation was held at Omaha, December 16th 1885.

M. E. Comp. Henry E. Palmer, G. H. P.

Things are booming in this jurisdiction, no less than five new Chapters having been formed during the year, and still the Grand High Priest is not satisfied. He wakes up his Companions in the following energetic style :—

"I note, from a perusal of our proceedings, that for the past eighteen years the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction have been doing just splendidly—good work, square work, true work; in fact, no crack or settling in the walls of the temple, no serious complaints; of course, everything must be running smoothly. Undoubtedly, when only half a dozen to a dozen neighborly chapters were at work on the foundation walls of our Nebraska temple, good work was being done, and my predecessors very properly reported 'that the general tranquility of the Craft is rather the peace and quietude of prosperity than the stillness of apathy and stagnation.' Companions, it would be much easier for me to follow in the same well beaten path than to try to lead the blind by a way they know not, in paths not as familiar to myself as they should be to a guide, or with my untrained and poorly guided pen try to make crooked things straight. Times have changed. From three subordinate chapters June 17, 1867, with a total membership of less than 100, we have grown to twenty-nine regularly constituted chapters and six under dispensation, with a total membership of 1,441, in good standing; and yet we have not kept even proportionate pace

with Blue Lodge Masonry in this state. This growth is not the natural increase of the first plant. It is from the wonderful emigration to the state from all parts of the world. I venture the assertion that we have more members of different Grand Jurisdictions and different chapters than can be found in any state in the Union, unless it be our sister state, Kansas. We have Chapter Masons of every school, from so many tongues, through so many minds, it is indeed wonderful that we are able to maintain a semblance to the true ritualistic work. Then, too, within the past three years the General Grand Chapter has promulgated many important changes entirely at variance to the ritual of fully three-fourths of our members. During the nineteen years which have elapsed since the formation of this Grand Chapter there has never been any board of custodians or instructors to disseminate the work or produce uniformity of work—no system of inspection of the records kept or work done. True, we have always had Grand Lecturers, who have held the office for the honor conferred. We have committed the work to the care of these lecturers, and not one of them is to-day half as well posted as he ought to be. Not one of them will pretend that he has done his duty. It is a shame that the office of Grand Lecturer will be accepted by any companion who cannot, even on special request of the Grand High Priest, devote one day of the three hundred and sixty-five to work for the good of the craft. We have gone on year after year in this haphazard sort of a way, constituting new chapters, and leaving both old and new to run themselves without instruction, without assistance, without supervision, and, aside from an annual cursory examination of a brief tabulated statement of their acts, apparently without caring whether they lived or died. About half of this tabulated work even is prepared by the Grand Secretary. I know of at least three chapters in this Grand Jurisdiction that have legally forfeited their charters half a dozen times during the past ten years. We have chapters with from fifty to one hundred members, where stated and regular convocations, during what some of our companions are pleased to call the 'chapter season,' have been passed—'no quorum.' Many of our chapters are weak, and their members are losing their interest in them; others are doing work of a character which should be stopped. We are putting poor material into the Temple, and we are doing the work in an *unworkmanlike* manner. It is time for a thorough inspection. Our overseers need more thorough instruction. There is not that uniformity of work that there ought to be. The members of this Grand Council even are at variance. A large proportion of our High Priests are not qualified to confer the degrees as they ought to be. I have heard the Principal Sojourner's lecture given as if learned from Hoyle or some other unmasonic work. In some chapters the degrees are conferred as if there were no good lessons to inculcate. That this eighteen years of continued neglect on the part of this Grand Body has not produced a worse state of affairs is the only surprising thing in connection with the subject. The zeal and energy of the craftsmen have kept our temple from falling, and even though we have been groping in darkness to a certain extent, yet we have grown to a powerful and financially well-to-do Grand Chapter. Yes, we have taken in from deceived and deluded companions, who have earned and paid for all the light, and supposed they were getting all they bargained for, the sum of \$6,344.61 since December 19, 1882, and now I, as a simple act of justice, and particularly for the best interest, of the Royal Craft in this Grand Jurisdiction, do hereby most earnestly recommend that we complete our contract; in other words, when we take a brother's money for the degrees of his Holy Order that we *confer* same. That we give him

such light as will guide him into chapters of other jurisdictions ; that we give such instructions as will lead him into the proper walk of life, and sustain him until he shall look upon the glistening spires of the Holy City, and enter the veils of the mystic realms of eternity; at least to impress him with the fact that there are lessons in our symbolic work easily recognized and *worth remembering*. To this end I recommend that an appropriation be made equal to \$24 for each subordinate chapter in this jurisdiction, said sum of money to be expended by order of the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary in payment for at least three lectures at each chapter by some thoroughly competent companion, who shall submit himself for examination before the Grand Council, and prove himself worthy and competent to instruct. He shall go through the work of the Mark, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch in each and every chapter in this jurisdiction, and to enable him to do this the High Priests of our subordinate chapters shall call meetings, pursuant to his letters of advice, for the work. This companion, or rather *bona-fide* lecturer, should be appointed the Grand Lecturer, and should have authority to examine the records of chapters visited, see that their Books of Marks are kept up to date; in short, inspect and report on each chapter visited. Unless the several chapters are visited and properly instructed, they will continue to go on traveling the same road they have heretofore passed over, and each rut will become deeper, each obstruction more prominent, until the road will indeed become a 'rough and rugged one,' each builder will have a way of his own, and our glorious fabric become a chaotic ruin."

The fees for the Chapter Degrees were raised to be not less than thirty-five dollars.

The following is the latter part of the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, which was adopted :—

"With reference to the matter between Indianola and McCook, we report that the Grand High Priest may, in his discretion, grant or withhold dispensations to form new chapters, and that his action is not subject to review on appeal by the Grand Chapter, and no cause of grievance can arise in favor of any individuals.

"Upon the subject of the merger of the chapter and council degrees in this jurisdiction, your committee would say. That as soon as any legally and duly constituted cryptic authority shall signify his willingness and ability to take control of and confer the council degrees, whether the late Grand Council of the State of Nebraska, or the General Grand Council of the United States, this Grand Chapter will surrender jurisdiction over the same.

"We further report: That a non-affiliated Past High Priest is not a member of this Grand Chapter; that connection with a chapter U. 'D. ' is not such 'affiliation' as obviates the objection, as chapters U. 'D. ' have no *membership*.

A proposal to give Chapters under dispensation the same exclusive jurisdiction as chartered Chapters was negatived.

The following was adopted :—

"*Resolved*, that the recommendation of the Grand High Priest looking to chapter instruction, be adopted ; and for this purpose there is hereby

appropriated out of the funds of this Grand Chapter, the sum of six hundred and fifty dollars (\$650), to be expended under the direction of the Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary, at the rate of not exceeding eight dollars (\$8) for each visit of instruction, and not exceeding twenty-four dollars (\$24) for each chapter; and that the Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, and Grand Scribe be the custodians of the work."

There is no report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. John D. Moore, (Grand Island,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. R. Bowen, (Omaha,) G. S.

NEVADA.

The 11th Convocation was held at Virginia, June 9th, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Chauncey N. Noteware, G. H. P.

He reports peace and prosperity.

Quebec was sustained.

The 12th Convocation was held at Reno, June 8, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Adolph. L. Fitzgerald, G. H. P., delivered an eloquent address. In it he says:—

"Positions of high honor and great dignity usually in this world bring with them great care and trouble. It has not been so with me, Companions, in the position of so great honor and dignity to which your extreme partiality one year ago exalted me. Even the wisest head and stoutest heart it would seem might consider before assuming such a burden; and I trust that even your great partiality did not make me with altogether 'the courage of ignorance' enter upon the exalted and honorable duties then assigned me. But thanks to the character of the Companions of our unpretentious 'sage-brush' jurisdiction, I have been permitted the privilege of enjoying the honor and dignity unaccompanied by the care and the trouble. My duties though pleasant have not been arduous. When a certain Greek was asked in a foreign country what in the laws of Greece was the penalty for paracide, he said, 'Greece has no law on the subject.' So if every other should be as the year now drawing to a close, were one of our Companions asked in a foreign jurisdiction what were the laws and penalties for crimes and misdemeanors against the Masonic law in the 'sage-brush' jurisdiction, he would say, 'The characters of our Companions are such that we have no enactments on the subject.' In truth no complaint or grievance has been referred to me for redress, or legal *questio vexata* submitted for determination or solution. Each Companion, it seems, has so learned to subdue his passions and so improved himself in Masonry that he has become a law unto himself and a law of such character that I am unable to perceive necessity of change."

Washington and Dakota were recognized.

The Grand Chapter spent a little time in pleasant conversation upon the subject of Work. It seemed to be the sense of the Companions present that, so far as possible, they should conform to the action of the General Grand Chapter upon the subject.

The Grand Secretary submitted an excellent report on Correspondence, and notices Canada for 1883 and 1884.

In his review of Maryland, Comp. Hammond has the following on landmarks :—

“ The cry of progressive Masonry is no mad-dog cry to us. There has been an immense deal of nonsense said and written about the immutability of the Masonic fraternity, when the solid historic fact is that modern Masonry is as much a development as the American Government or the Baptist Church. Our Companion asks for examples. That is an easy task. Ancient Lodges met in taverns, drank regular toddy in Lodge, had burial funds, did business in the first degree, and had a system of fines, and dozens of other local customs out of which the Craft has long since progressed. Besides, we have somewhere heard that Masonry was once purely operative—a trade guild—and that we to-day work in speculative Masonry only. So able an historian as Companion Schultz has no need to ask us about Masonic landmarks, concerning which there must necessarily be some difference of opinion. The Grand Lodge of Nevada tried its hand at making a list of landmarks, which list, for the most part, is satisfactory to us. If our Companion cares to pursue the subject further, and will drop us a postal, we will send him the printed list. For this writing it is ample to say that a belief in God and the legend of the third degree are landmarks, and, as such, differ essentially in character from the local customs quoted above.”

In one particular, at least, we are still “ Ancient,” and that is that all the business of the lodge is still, with us, transacted in the first degree. This can scarcely be called a “local custom.” Although the lodges in the United States have changed that custom, and have so far differed from the ancient custom of Freemasons and now do their business in the third degree, it can hardly be claimed that their way is an “ancient landmark” *as yet*. According to Drummond, however, it may become so in the next generation.

Under the head of Vermont, Comp. Hammond says :—

“ If any man, on account of conscience, or for any other reason, wishes, in good faith, to cease his connection with Masonry, by all means, if he be an honorable man, let him be granted an honorable dimit in which the facts are clearly stated. We, of Nevada, have no war, nor has California or any other jurisdiction, with such a man. We are not so tolerant of that other class who want nothing to do with Masonry—especially Blue or Arch Masonry—*except* when it is for their own financial, political or social advantage. Men who wish the Fraternity to help them, but who get very tired of helping the Fraternity.”

M. E. Comp. Thos. A. Menary, (Gold Hill,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John D. Hammond, (Carson,) G. S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The 67th Convocation was held at Concord. May 19, 1885.
M. E. Comp. Alpheus W. Baker, G. H. P.

In the opening remarks of his address, he says :—

“ This seeming quiescence, however, is but the stillness of the deep waters, the calm of steady progress of freedom from innovation or radical change. Conditions which more emphatically than aught else proclaim that the light of Royal Arch Masonry within our jurisdiction burns steadily and clearly ; that its fortress is Truth ; its principles Eternal, and that our own measure of our duty and estimate of our privileges are fixed and constant, because they are generally just and true.

It seems to me the very highest expression of the prosperity of our fraternity, that with an earnest wish to do all that within me lies to advance its interests, I find occasion to report so little, and to suggest so little, beyond the ordinary formal statements to this annual convocation.”

He recommends that a semi-annual Convocation should be held every year to exemplify the work in order to secure greater uniformity.

On this subject, the Committee on Doings of Grand Officers thus reported :—

“ In regard to the recommendation to provide for an annual exemplification of the work of the several degrees, your committee deem it necessary only to provide for the present year ; they therefore recommend that the M. E. Grand High Priest be requested to call a special convocation of the Grand Chapter during the present year for the purpose of exemplification of the work, at such time and place as may seem to him desirable, as the revised Grand Constitution reported this day will, if adopted, secure the holding of a semi-annual convocation for this purpose after the next annual convocation.”

The new revised constitution was ordered to be printed and to come up for action at the next meeting.

Nothing was placed before the Committee on Jurisprudence.

Dakota and Washington were recognized.

The following was adopted :—

“ *Resolved*, That the Grand High Priest be requested to open a correspondence with the Grand High Priest of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Maine, looking to a concordat between this Grand Chapter and that of Maine, by which the jurisdiction of certain districts in New Hampshire may be ceded to Chapters in Maine near the border, and in return a similar cession be made by the Grand Chapter of Maine of territory near to Chapters in New Hampshire. Such negotiations to be reported to this Grand Chapter at its next annual convocation.”

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Albert S. Wait, and notices Canada for 1884. He thinks that it should be allowable to withdraw a petition.

“That a petition by being received and referred becomes the property of the body is doubtless quite true; but that it follows that it cannot be withdrawn, or that it must go to the ballot, is sustained neither by sound logic nor common sense. In fact, the premises sustain only the converse of Companion Gurney’s conclusions. If the petition has become the property of the body, it must follow that the body may do with it as it pleases—that is to say, may dismiss it without action, permit it to be withdrawn, or dispose of it in any other way.

“The fact is, the action upon a petition for the degrees is based in no respect whatever upon any supposition of its having become the property of the body. It is created by the law of Masonry, irrespective of any idea of ownership. There is no reason in Masonry or in common sense why such a petition should not be withdrawn, provided the candidate desires and the companions unanimously consent.”

For our part, we have never been able to comprehend why a petition could not be withdrawn. It is true that it has become the property of the Body to which it is presented, but surely no Masonic Body would wish to have an unwilling candidate. He may have changed his mind, and if so, he ought to be allowed to withdraw his application. It seems absurd that it should be forbidden.

M. E. Comp. Alpheus W. Baker, (Lebanon,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo. P. Cleaves, (Concord,) G. S.

NEW JERSEY.

The 29th Convocation was held at Trenton, September 9th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Henry S. Hanes, G. H. P.

His address is one of the best that has as yet come under our notice this year. Without further preface, we will allow Comp. Haines, to speak for himself:—

“To the Royal Craft, divine favors without stint or measure have been accorded, and peace and prosperity have been her portion. This is true, not only of our own jurisdiction, but, in general, the same current of good fortune is acknowledged to permeate nearly all the Grand Chapters in our favored land.

Among the things which ought to rejoice our hearts, not the least is the recovery and restoration to health of M. E. Comp. George B. Edwards, our Grand Secretary, who was stricken, in January last, with a dangerous malady which for many weeks made him an object of earnest solicitude, and threatened to deprive this Grand Chapter of his valuable services; but, to our exceeding joy, patient and unremitting care, under Providence, has caused the dissipation of the dark shadows that seemed to be gathering around him, and has enabled him to appear again in the vigor of renewed health among those he has so wisely counselled and so faithfully served *

* * * “In my report of last year as Deputy G. H. Priest, I had the pleasure of suggesting the expediency of establishing a uniformity in the

practice of certain ceremonies attending the rendering of the ritual exercises of the Grand Chapter, and was much gratified that the subject received such favorable consideration as to lead to the recommendation that exemplification of the work in its relation to these, be had at one or more points in the state, with a view of accomplishing the end proposed.

According to this recommendation, and in pursuance of notice duly sent to many who had held the principal offices in the Grand Chapter, and other experienced Companions, conventions were held at the city of Newark, on the 12th of February and on the 12th of March, respectively, which were attended by a goodly number of those who have been prominent in maintaining and elucidating the ceremonies and symbols of Royal Arch Masonry. On these occasions the whole work was carefully and diligently reviewed. From a consideration of the result, these labors, whether accepted as recommended by this committee, or as subsequently amended by you, much benefit must necessarily inure to the Craft, and great comfort and satisfaction to those whose duty it shall be to visit subordinate Chapters for inspection and instruction in the work. The report of these proceedings is in the hands of the Grand Secretary. Being of considerable length and multiplicity of detail, I forbear from reading it as a part of this address, and suggest that it be referred to a special committee for examination, with the request that they report the same with their views thereon as early as practicable.

From information gathered from my associate Grand Officers and other sources, I think the correct rendering of the ritual has been this year more of a concern with the Chapter than heretofore. This no doubt has been in a measure stimulated by the wise action of the Grand Chapter in authorizing a review of the work as has just before been alluded to. The want of attention to this particular has been a source of solicitude in other Grand Chapters than ours, and has led in some, as appears from their proceedings, to the consideration of the propriety of requiring from candidates a knowledge of a short form of lecture before advancement from one degree to another, as in symbolic Masonry.” * * * *

“In regard to the choosing and recording of Marks, I have the satisfaction of believing that the earnest recommendations of my predecessors, and the urgent and more immediate influence of the visiting Grand Officers upon the Companions, have resulted, during the last year, in securing a slightly greater attention than usual to this important matter; but still its neglect is sufficiently general to awaken regret, and, I think, to call for some remedy at the hands of the Grand Chapter.

This subject has been presented here at nearly every convocation of the Grand Chapter since I have been a member of it, and legislation upon it has more than once been sought. The form in which it presented itself, however, has necessarily elicited the adverse reports of committees appointed to consider it, in evident contradiction of their own sentiments as to the real merits of the subject. In view of this repeated action, this matter is one which, following the natural inclination of men to abide only in the sunshine of human approbation, I should now hesitate to touch upon; but I feel that I should be a traitor to my conviction of duty if I should allow the only opportunity afforded me for the expression of my views from so exalted a station to escape me without their utterance. Adopting the language of the committee appointed to consider this subject at the last annual convocation, which language was adopted as expressing the sense of the Grand Chapter, ‘The selection and recording of Marks is not only contemplated by the ritual and by the general regulations, but is in

reality a part of the M. M. M. Degree, and necessary to its completeness,' I would earnestly ask the Companions how long they will deem it creditable and just to continue to confer, by official sanction, a degree shorn of its necessary attributes and most distinguishing features; and whether it would not be more logical and consistent to seek the means of removing such obstacles as are supposed to be in the way of completing the degree, and to insist upon its entire rendition. The committee referred to was not at fault; their report was entirely in accord with existing regulations; but there is no reason, perhaps, why regulations so seriously affecting the integrity of the Mark Degree should not be modified. A proper amendment to the ritual, in a portion easily called to mind by every Companion, would afford an effectual remedy, and preserve the beautiful symbolism of this degree, and render it truly useful to its recipients." * *

"In thus taking official leave of my Companions in our present relation to each other, I would fain utter some parting injunction that might be thought worthy of a place in memory. In Masonry there are no new principles to enunciate; the same old theme has sounded again and again from this chair. Every Companion has heard the nature and tendency of Masonry explained, and has been told from time to time its duties and demands, and doubtless many of you have frequently set examples of enlarged charity and benevolence. The importance of individual devotion to these principles would afford a theme for a long discourse. The individual Mason is apt to think that unless the Masonic sphere in which he moves is an exalted one his influence is not felt. This is very far from being true. His membership and consistent conduct make it possible for others to perform the works of love and benevolence that he has not the opportunity to accomplish. He is one of a band, connected by the firmest engagements and ties of affection, warmed with the same generous philanthropy, and united for the purpose of promoting the perfection of human character and the happiness of society. He that underlocks the casket and offers the treasure of his mind and heart to the relief of sorrowing or afflicted virtue, is equal unto him whose pulse is open at the call of distress; and both are blessed. Let him remember that envy is often the companion of eminence, and therefore long to be conspicuous rather for excellence of Masonic character than for rank or station, for by attaining the former he will render himself deserving of the loving approbation of his fellows and the crowning benediction of the great I Am. Let him realize that in his words and his works he is responsible to the whole Masonic world; that the good influence of the Fraternity is diminished by the evil repute of a single member, as the strength of the mighty cable is impaired by one rusty or ill-forged link; and that its powers of beneficence are increased by the virtue and faithfulness of each, as the waters of the tiny rill, that in lonely wanderings trickle down the mountain side, are mingled and lost in the mighty floods of the river, and yet may be the very drops that ministering kindness gathers up again to cool the aching brow and fevered lip of sickness and suffering."

Washington and Dakota were recognized.

Quebec was sustained.

The following was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That hereafter the reports of the Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King and Grand Scribe be made in writing direct to the Grand High Priest, not less than ten days prior to the annual convocations, for

the purpose of being summarized in the address, and that they neither be read before the Grand Chapter nor printed."

The time of meeting was changed from September to May.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Henry Vehslage. Our proceedings do not appear to have been received.

M. E. Comp. Benj. T. Bright, (Bridgeton,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo B. Edwards, (Jersey City,) G. S.

The 30th Convocation was held at Trenton, May 12th, 1886, and we have received the proceedings on this 23rd June.

M. E. Comp. Benjamin T. Bright, G. H. P.

His address reports the Chapters in a prosperous condition, with but one or two exceptions, and the officers doing good work.

He thinks that the Past Master Degree is not capitular, and that it should be eliminated from the Chapter Ritual and placed where it belongs—in "Symbolic" Masonry.

It was considered that no further action was necessary with regard to the dispute in Quebec, as it is a matter to be acted on by the General Grand Chapter.

The several Committees on Charity, on unfinished business, on appeals and grievances, on constitutions and warrants reported, that no business had been presented for their consideration.

The following resolutions were adopted :—

"Resolved, That a special committee upon ceremonies be appointed, to report to this Grand Body the propriety of providing and adopting a ceremony for observance at funerals of Royal Arch Masons; a ceremony that may be performed by the Chapter alone, or so arranged and abridged that it may be rendered jointly with the ceremonies of other Masonic bodies.

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed, to report to this Grand Body the practicability and advisability of selecting certain days in the Masonic calendar referring to important events in Royal Arch Masonry, and celebrating them as festival days; that the committee report at this convocation, if practicable, if not, that they be continued as a Special Committee, to report at the next regular convocation of this Grand Chapter."

In future, the reports of the Council Officers are not to be read, but printed.

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Henry Vehslage. In his notice of Maryland, on a recommendation that the reports on Correspondence should be printed before

being submitted to the Grand Chapter, so that they should be considered by the members and passed upon by them "before they are generally disseminated," Comp. Vehslage says:—

"This *may* be necessary in some jurisdictions; but it does not promise to hinder these views from being "generally disseminated." It reminds one of the irrepressible brother, always ready to speak, whom the leader hoped to keep quiet by asking him to make a prayer, just as he was about to rise for his usual speech; he gracefully acceded, saying 'I think I can throw my remarks into the form of a prayer.' However, the suggestion was adopted, and the correspondence report will be examined *before* it is published."

M. E. Comp. Charles Belcher, jr, (Newark,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo. B. Edwards, (Jersey City,) G. S.

NEW YORK.

The 89th Convocation was held at Albany, February 2nd, 1886.

M. E. Comp. James E. Morrison, G. H. P., delivered an address which covers 28 pages of the proceedings and is replete with interesting and instructive matter. Of our old friend Lockwood, he says:—

"Comp. John A. Lockwood died at his home, in Buffalo, on the 21st of February, 1885, in the sixty-third year of his age. He was born in the city of Albany, on the 17th of June, 1822, but was a resident of Buffalo for upwards of thirty years. A printer by trade, the excellent make-up of the Annual Proceedings of this Grand Chapter, their exceptionally fine letterpress and careful typography, attest the mastery of the art which he acquired. Comp. Lockwood was made a Mason in Queen City Lodge, No. 358, in 1857, and continued his membership in that lodge to the time of his death. He was its Master during 1863, 1864 and 1865, and was subsequently appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the Twenty-fifth Masonic District. He was exalted in Keystone Chapter, No. 163, on the 7th of October, 1869, and was its High Priest in 1872. He was also a member of Hugh De Payens Commandery, No. 30, K. T., and of the Scottish Rite bodies of Buffalo and Rochester. Comp. Lockwood was present at the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, of which he had been a member for many years, as the representative of Keystone Chapter. Three weeks later he was buried, with the ceremonies of the Craft, in Forest Lawn Cemetery. His son being Master of the lodge, a Past Master officiated. These are meagre dotted lines which scarcely should be recorded as the outlines of a full, strong Masonic life. Comp. Lockwood was a man of earnest and sturdy friendships. Always ready to do a kindness, he was thoroughly imbued with a sense of the duties he owed to brothers and companions. The last occasion on which I met him previous to the convocation of last year, was at the funeral of Comp. Dickerman. He had come from one end of the State to the other to be present at the obsequies of his friend. Alas! just one month later, he was suddenly called to follow Dickerman to the 'land where our fathers

have gone before us.' In private life he was quiet and unostentatious, a useful, ready helper to those who needed assistance, placable and genial, of the strictest integrity, and conscientiously faithful to every trust committed to his hands. I judged Comp. Lockwood to be, in the fair sense of the word, a righteous man; a man true and just in all his dealings; and it were well for us all, Companions, if we should be permitted 'to die the death of the righteous,' that our last end might be like his."

Comp. Lockwood was well known to many members of our Grand Chapter, he having been quite a regular attendant at our annual gatherings and he was loved and respected by all who were privileged with his acquaintance.

Comp. Morrison reports their relations with other Grand Chapters, to be entirely cordial and unstrained. His conviction of the irregularity of the formation of the Grand Chapter of Portugal has not been altered. On the Quebec question, he says:—

"Your determination, last year, was virtually to leave this subject in abeyance, until the session of the General Grand Chapter; but I cannot too strongly urge upon those who will represent this constituent Grand Chapter in the counsels of the Royal Craft of the Nation, the duty, nay, the imperative necessity of strong and effective measures, on the part of the General Grand Chapter—measures which will not only emphatically pronounce the doctrine of American Masonry on the subject of territorial jurisdiction, but will uphold and strengthen the Grand Chapter of Quebec in the assertion of rights, which have been recognized and sanctioned by every Grand Chapter in the United States, and even by the body whose recent interference is a grievance greatly to be deplored.

We also copy the following:—

"While still on this question of our foreign relations, perhaps it would not be improper to give place to what to my mind is one of the most unique episodes that has occurred during my administration. Early in the spring of 1885, I was requested by the Grand High Priest of a neighboring State, to ask a Chapter in this State to waive jurisdiction over certain candidates residing within its territory, as a matter of convenience to the candidates. The request was accompanied with an offer to divide equally with the New York Chapter the fees which might be received for the exaltation of these candidates. The request in form was refused, but our Chapter, representing itself as desirous of accommodating all candidates wishing to receive the Capitular degrees of Masonry elsewhere, resolved that the foreign Chapter should be requested to confer the degrees on all candidates residing at or near the place in question, who might be elected in the New York Chapter, and who might request the same to be done, and for doing so the New York Chapter would agree to pay to the foreign Chapter one-half of the exaltation fee received by the New York Chapter from each of said candidates. I do not know whether the agreement was entered into or not, but the request in the first instance, the offered accompanying it, its refusal and the counter offer, show a degree of diplomacy which, on a larger scale and in a wider field, might be a wise solution of grave problems involving territorial rights."

On their home affairs, Comp. Morrison has the following judicious remarks :—

I have not had the opportunity carefully to examine the condition of the Chapters, which were last year reported as requiring a special visitation at the hands of the Grand Officers, with a view either to the recall of their warrants, or the taking of some strong measures by which they may again become efficient factors in the Masonic work of the jurisdiction. From what I have observed, however, I have no hesitancy in saying that there are many Chapters in our State, whose present weakness, and the lack of any prospect of future strengthening, emphatically suggest that they should give better opportunity by going out of existence, for bodies retaining health and vigor sufficient to do their appointed work. Two Chapters, namely, Putnam, No. 211, and Split Rock, No. 243, I am informed by the Grand Secretary, made no returns last year. The constitutional limit having passed this year, and no returns having been received, I directed the Grand Secretary to prefer charges against them for non-compliance with the constitutional provision in this particular. In this way, formal inquiry can be made into the present condition and the prospects of Chapters, which are either too weak or too little interested to conform to constitutional requirements. Should any mitigating circumstances appear in these cases, or if there be fair excuse for the failure to perform the duty required of them, I have no doubt judgment will be suspended and the most charitable disposition shown to them. These two instances, however, are those in which the Grand Chapter can, directly under the law, without straining its prerogatives, judiciously interfere. But the Chapters are not few which should at an early day wind up their affairs and go into liquidation. I ask you to recall my review of the case of Naples Chapter last year, and the potent reason, as it appeared to me then, why these practically dormant Chapters should be put effectually and permanently to sleep. Because of their enfeebled condition, they are not only useless in themselves, but positive obstructions in the way of zealous companions, who are able and willing to keep alive Chapters, which have any life in them to start with.

I am informed by the Grand Secretary that the net result of the year's work shows a slight loss in the aggregate number of Royal Arch Masons in affiliation with Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Body. I trust that the cause lies somewhere else than in the unwillingness of Masons to live up to their obligation. There are numerous causes which go to make up a result, either favorable or unfavorable, to the fortunes of any Masonic organization. Strong interest awakened for the time being in some immediate and exciting cause ; a year in which there has been a depression in the trade centres of the State—for Masonry responds to business success or adversity with right and nice precision ; want of administrative ability and tact in those to whom the government of the Craft is, for the time being, committed. These are among the causes which operate upon the welfare of our organization. I would that I could be persuaded that there was not another and more serious cause, a lack of that keen sense of probity and right doing, which should urge every companion, while he remains in a Chapter, to pay his share towards its support, and if he must needs leave it, to be sure that he is ' clear of the books.'"

Three of his decisions are noted as involving some novel points :—

"2 April 24th, 1885, in answer to a letter of inquiry from M. E. L. N. Stevens, Past High Priest of Valley Point Chapter, No. 232, of Cuba, Allegany county, I informed him that this Grand Chapter neither authorizes, recognizes, nor tolerates the use of any monitor or book, purporting to contain the *esoteric* work of the Capitular degrees." * *

"That dues should be charged only from the date of the exaltation of a candidate who has been elected for advancement and membership in a Chapter." * * * *

"8. On December 29th, Comp. F. P. Morris asked the following :

When a brother requests his name to be dropped from Lodge membership has he a right to visit the Chapter in which he was exalted, and to continue his membership therein ?

December 31st, I answered :

If his name is dropped from the Lodge roll at his own request and not for non-payment of dues, after he has become a member of a Chapter, his Chapter membership is not affected thereby."

Comp. Harris, of the Standing Committee on Rituals, submitted the following report, which was received ; the *first* recommendation was disagreed to the *second* and *third* adopted, and, on motion of Comp. William T. Woodruff, the resolution offered by him and referred to the Committee, providing to repeal Section IX. of the General Regulations, was substituted for the *fourth* recommendation of the Committee.

The question on the latter proposition was once taken in the usual manner, and again by a division of the Grand Chapter, but resulted so nearly equal in both cases, the Grand High Priest reserving his decision, that a vote by Chapters was demanded, pursuant to a rule of order, and directed to be taken. Such vote resulted as follows :

Affirmative. . . Grand and Past Grand Officers, 7 votes ; 70 Chapters, 256 votes. Total, 263.

Negative—Grand and Past Grand Officers, 10 votes ; 73 Chapters, 252 votes. Total, 262.

Absent or not Voting—12 Grand and Past Grand Officers.

Unrepresented or not voting—48 Chapters.

' *To the Grand Chapter of the State of New York* :

Your Committee on Rituals respectfully report that they have examined the annual report of the Grand Lecturer, which was referred to them, and having duly considered the matters therein severally set forth, highly commend that officer for the zeal, fidelity and ability with which he has performed the arduous duties devolving upon him ; at the same time we take occasion to congratulate the Grand Chapter on the marked increase of interest among the Companions throughout the State, which seems to have resulted from his visits and the conventions held by him during the past year, regarding it as an evidence of the wisdom of the Grand Chapter in thus providing the means for the general dissemination of the Standard Work.

In respect to the Work, however, your Committee have learned, with much disfavor, of the elimination of certain phrases connected with the proclamation in the opening exercises of the Chapter, which can only be referred to verbally, but which your Committee think should be restored and continued in use, and they recommend, therefore, that the Grand Chapter so order and direct.

Your Committee witnessed with much pleasure, last evening, the exemplification, by the Grand Lecturer and his assistants, of the degree of Mark Master, and his method of conferring the degree of Most Excellent Master, and recommend that the forms promulgated in each be adopted, and continued as a part of the standard of work of this jurisdiction.

Your Committee have also given careful consideration to the resolution offered in Grand Chapter by the Grand Lecturer and referred to this Committee, in reference to the use of the * * in the Mark and Most Excellent Master's degrees, and, heartily approving of the spirit and purpose of the resolution, recommend its adoption, as follows :

Whereas, The General Grand Chapter by its action in respect to rituals adopted in 1880, provided for the use of the * * in the conferring of the degrees of Mark Master and Most Excellent Master ; and,

Whereas, The use of the same is not deemed essential, or necessary to a proper rendering of the work of these degrees, and is practically an innovation upon the long established usage of this jurisdiction ; therefore,

Resolved, That the representatives of this Grand Chapter be instructed to secure, if possible, at the next ensuing Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter, the repeal of so much of the standard of instruction as enjoins the use of the * * in conferring the degrees of Mark Master and Most Excellent Master, or the remission of the same to the discretion of the several Grand Chapters.

Your Committee have also duly considered Section IX. of the General Regulations and the resolution proposing its repeal. We are convinced that, as a general rule, and in most localities, a compliance with the terms of the regulation must produce good results, but we are also convinced that there are special cases, which have been instanced to your Committee, in which the enforcement of the exact terms of the regulation would prove a hardship, and productive of evil in requiring a literal or so-called obedience, which, under the circumstances, must lead to a practical disobedience of the rule, and to meet such cases the Grand Chapter should make provision, leaving it to the honor of the Chapters and their officers to apply the same when actually necessary. We, therefore recommend that Section IX. of the General Regulations be amended by inserting therein after the word 'Hereafter,' and before the word 'no' in the first line, these words, viz. : 'Except in special cases, of which the Subordinate Chapter affected shall be the judge,' so that the regulation will read :

SECTION IX. Hereafter, *except in special cases, of which the Subordinate Chapter affected shall be the judge*, no candidate shall be advanced in any Lodge or Chapter in this jurisdiction until he shall have made suitable proficiency in the preceding degree, by committing to memory the short form of lecture appertaining to that degree, as taught by the Grand Lecturer, and that the system of lectures prepared by the Grand Lecturer is hereby adopted as the standard of such proficiency."

The vote on the last clause of the above report shows a considerable diversity of opinion, the repeal of the whole section being carried by only a majority of one. For ourselves, we should think it would have been a wise course to have left the matter in the hands of the Individual Chapters and to have allowed them to use their discretion in each particular case, as

the same would arise. At the same time, we have no doubt of the efficacy of the resolution that every candidate should attain suitable proficiency before advancement and the best Chapters and the Chapters that will have the best reputation will be those which insist on their members having a certain standard of acquaintance with each degree. A well-posted visitor is a joy and consolation to himself as well as to the Chapters he visits, and he will have an excusable pride in announcing himself as a member of a body that knows how to take care of its own reputation.

The following regulations and resolutions were adopted :—

“*General Regulation, Section X.* It shall be the duty of every High Priest, or other Presiding officer of a Chapter, to cause a summons to be issued to each companion of his Chapter requiring his attendance at the convocation appointed for the annual election of officers.”

“*Resolved*, That the Grand High Priest and other officers of the Grand Council be requested to devise and carry into effect a system of visitation by them of the Subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction.”

“*General Regulation, Section XI.* The acts of a companion under suspension in his Lodge shall nevertheless be valid, unless his disability by reason of such suspension shall be known to his Chapter at the time of their commission.”

“*Resolved*, That, as an acknowledgment of their high appreciation of his valuable services, the officers and members of this Grand Chapter hereby tender hearty and sincere thanks to M.E. James E. Morrison, for the able, efficient and dignified manner in which he has discharged the various duties of the office of Grand High Priest during the past two years, and that a committee of three be appointed to procure and present to the Most Excellent Companion a suitable testimonial expressive of the confidence and fraternal and personal respect of his companions of the Grand Chapter.

Comp. Darius A. Ogden, in another of his capital reports on Correspondence, has a good notice of our proceedings of 1885, which concludes as follows :—

“It will thus be seen that Royal Arch Masonry is prosperous, harmonious and well to do in that part of Canada over which this Grand Chapter exercises jurisdiction, and that such a condition may long continue, is the earnest wish of every companion on this side of the boundary line.

Comp. Henry Robertson again presents the report on correspondence ; his reports are always *most excellent*, and the present is fully up to the standard. New York is kindly remembered, with liberal quotations from her proceedings.

The Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales not having complied with the request of the Grand Chapter of Canada to withdraw warrants issued to Mark Lodges in Quebec, the Committee on the Address of the Grand Z. recommended, pursuant to the resolution adopted last year, ‘that an edict be issued of non-intercourse to the several Chapters throughout this jurisdiction, and the recommendation was adopted.

This action is decisive and to the point. Nothing could be more to the

purpose, for it is right and proper that the Mother Grand Chapter should make a stand for her offspring and defend her rights, and we honor her for so doing. No action thus far growing out of this unhappy controversy so emphatically sustains Quebec, and none gives so stinging a blow to the pretensions of the Grand Mark Lodge of England as this. Old England, with all her pride and strength, must feel this condemnation from the British Province, the Dominion of Canada. Her own people rise up and condemn her.

M. E. Comp. R. H. Huntingdon, (Adams,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Christopher G. Fox, (Buffalo,) G. S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The 37th Convocation was held at Tarboro, May 19th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. George W. Blount, G. H. P.

In his address, he says :—

“The year just past has been one showing but little fruit, there has been much depression of spirit pervading the hearts of some of our best workers and most ardent supporters. Yet there has not been entire drought ; some fields are yet green and life is in the old land yet. Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 27, has had quite a season of refreshing, the number of its members much enlarged, a good deal of dead limbs cut off, and our young men are coming to the front with zeal and learning the work and law of the Order, and some other Chapters have been prospering. I now hope that we are tiding over the gulf of decline, which my sanguine spirit has always led me to believe was only transient, caused in large measure by the rapid growth of many secret organizations which offer rewards of various kinds to its members, a practice which is alike abhorrent to the genius of Masonry and true Masonic charity.”

In the report of the Grand Secretary, we find a further explanation of the lack of interest on the part of the members of Subordinate Chapters.

“I find by correspondence with the Chapters and from the returns that, with few exceptions, there has been but little advancement so far as exaltations are concerned. I have reason to believe that the system of work is one of the prominent causes of the inactivity among the Chapters, not so much the arrangement of the degrees, but the manner of communicating or conferring them. The remedy, we hope, is provided by the action of the committee designated at the last Annual Convocation to arrange and promulgate the work, the results of whose labors have been recently announced and will be reported to this Grand Body.

The Chapters are in need of proper instruction. The new arrangement is, so far as most of the Chapters are concerned, untried, and they have not been able to conform to it, owing to their inability to procure the services of a Grand Lecturer. If the present arrangement is continued, the Chapters must have more instruction in order to become proficient. These suggestions are admissible, as they are the result of enquiries generally as

to the progress of the Chapters. I know the Chapters are in search of light, and I am sure arrangements can be made between them and regularly authorized lecturers by which a correct knowledge of the work as it now exists can be obtained."

The report of the Special Committee on Work, presented by Comp. Albertson, is well worthy of the attention of all who desire to see the greater prosperity and progress of this branch of the Masonic science :—

"Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, relating to work and the employment of lecturers for the different Chapters, report, viz :

We agree heartily and freely with the reasoning of the Grand High Priest. It is necessary, absolutely necessary, to the existence of the Chapters, that a knowledge of the ritual and the forms of the work should become general amongst the members of the Chapters. It will not complete the full obligation of a member to rest satisfied with the attainments of a few officers of the Chapter, and himself remain in ignorance of the duties incumbent on all. The officers should be well instructed, as a matter of course, but no Chapter is safe whose only reserve of knowledge and light is the life of burning and wasting tapers.

Sickness, or disability in many forms, may rob the Chapter of one or many of its officers ; business engagements and the vicissitudes of life may, at any moment, deprive the Chapter of the attendance of its officers at its sessions. If, in such contingencies, the officers alone know the work, the Chapter is in a pitiable condition. The members shrink even from attending the meetings, conscious of their ignorance and ashamed to betray it. The doors remain closed, no accessions are made, the light grows dim and illumines no Masonic virtue, and the ashes of sacrifice are cold and dead upon the altar.

The true way of spreading light is for each one to seek it for himself. Our obligations are personal and must be discharged each for himself and not vicariously. No one can obey unless he understands the order given. No one can be intelligently reprov'd unless he knows what wrong he is warned from committing. Directly, and by necessary implication, each member pledges himself by his obligations to know his duties and to perform them. Upon him rests the burden of compliance with his engagements, and he may not wait for another to do his work. Each member should learn all his duties and wherein he is not informed he should seek for himself and find what he seeks. If it cause trouble, or inconvenience, or a little expense. these burdens are incident to all acquirements of every kind and must be borne as they are borne at the requirement of every duty.

Primarily the expense of teaching must be borne by the scholar. Each member should expect to pay for his teaching. Were this realized as a duty, there would be no attempt at evasion, and the voice of the teacher would be more frequently heard.

The recommendation of the G. H. P. is not intended, as we think, to take one particle of the burden imposed by duty, from the shoulders of the members. He suggests merely an aid. That teachers shall visit the Chapters, impart knowledge, and enable the members the better to discharge their duties.

The suggestion is in the line of Masonic Charity, and we are thankful that our G. H. P. has cared so well for the welfare of the order. He has done well in bringing the matter to our notice. We must finish the suggestion and let it bear fruit in the future life of the Chapters.

The teachers are ready and willing, but they cannot undertake the work at their own charge. They must be clothed and fed. How shall the charge be met? Shall the Grand Chapter send them or shall the Subordinate Chapters call them? Without doubt the latter is the true way. The Grand Chapter has little to spare from its necessary wants. Each Chapter is richer than the Grand Chapter and it is better equipped for the work. It is a duty primarily resting on each Chapter and on the members of each one, and it is wise that the burden should be to him to whom it belongs.

If any Chapter is too feeble, after effort, to engage a teacher, then the Grand Chapter may, if in its power, extend the hand of aid. How this may most judiciously be done we leave to the wisdom of this body, not deeming it proper to go further than to suggest a remedial measure."

The report on Correspondence is by Comp James Southgate, an old reporter, whose former services to the guild are by no means forgotten, and who is cordially welcomed back to the fold. Canada for 1884 receives due notice.

M. E. Comp. Geo. W. Blount, (Wilson,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp Donald W. Bain, (Raleigh) G. S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The 15th Convocation was held at Halifax, June 3rd, 1884.

M. E. Comp. Rev. H. D. Deblois, G. H. P.

The Grand Secretary reported that the returns from the Chapters would show a marked improvement.

The address of the Grand High Priest gives the details of his official visits, and mentions the fact that he forbade the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree upon any brother who had not registered his mark.

With regard to the Grand Chapter of Portugal, it was resolved to obtain further information before recognition.

In the report on the address, we find the following remarks:—

"Your committee rejoice in the signs of prosperity as indicated in the M. E. H. P.'s address, and notice with the greatest satisfaction the zeal and industry with which that exalted officer has performed the onerous duties of his station. The attempt to visit personally every Chapter in Nova Scotia, and the success of that attempt, with one exception, is deserving of the highest commendation of the Companions throughout the jurisdiction.

The prosperity of the various Subordinate Chapters is, with rare exceptions, most gratifying, and your Committee are sure that this Grand Chapter cannot do otherwise than refer such prosperity very largely to the vigorous manner in which the retiring M. E. H. P. has labored during his year of office."

Quebec was fully sustained.

The Committee on Revision of the Constitution was granted further time and an additional three members.

The state of the Finances prevented the publication of a report on Correspondence.

The subject of back dues from dormant Chapters was referred to the Committee on General Purposes, with power.

The mode of dimission and the status of a Companion suspended by his lodge for non-payment of dues, were referred to the Committee on Constitution, to be clearly defined.

Every Chapter is now in good working order, and the Grand Secretary hopes that "this auspicious beginning made may not be allowed by any future supineness, to abate."

M. E. Comp. H. D. Deblois, (Annapolis,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo. T. Smithers, (Halifax,) G. S.

The 16th Convocation was held at Halifax, June 2nd, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Henry D. Deblois, G. H. P.

He reports one new Chapter.

An improved condition of the Craft is evident in the jurisdiction, and hopes are expressed that the day of apathy and listlessness has gone by.

The following are his decisions :—

"*Questions submitted.*—1st. Has a Royal Arch Chapter a right to remit the dues of a companion when he is able to pay the same? *Ans.*—No ! unless it is prepared and willing to pay 'Grand Chapter Dues' for such companion.

2nd. Can a Past High Priest open or close a Chapter in the absence of the M. E. High Priest, the R. E. King and Scribe being in their proper positions? *Ans.*—No ! The King or Scribe must open and close the Chapter, but, outside of these particular duties may call upon any duly qualified officers to confer degrees, etc.

3rd. Can a petition be withdrawn by the unanimous consent of the Chapter before the investigating Committee have reported? *Ans.*—No ! It is not competent for the Chapter after it has referred it to the investigating committee to dispose of it in any other way than by ballot.

In the matter of admission to Royal Arch Chapters I ruled as follows : Every applicant for the Degrees of Royal Arch Masonry must be a Subscribing Member in good standing in a Blue Lodge; and no unaffiliated Master Mason shall be eligible to present a petition while in that position, but a Chapter Royal Arch Mason may take his 'demit' from a 'Blue Lodge' without affecting his standing in the 'Chapter.'"

The rank of Past Grand Scribe was conferred on Comp. the Hon. Moses Monroe, of Newfoundland.

Dakota was recognized.

On the Quebec question, the following is the report of the Committee on General Purposes :—

"The unfortunate difficulties and complications between the Grand bodies of England and the Grand Chapter of Quebec still continue to exist, and whilst again expressing the utmost sympathy with the latter in their trouble, the hope that good counsel and fraternal feelings may yet prevail and heal the deplorable differences between two Grand jurisdictions in whose welfare the members of this Grand Chapter are in many ways so closely and fraternally connected and interested, prevent this Committee from making any recommendation looking to the severance of mutual friendly relations with the Grand body in England as has in the wisdom of some of our American Sister Grand Chapters been by them promulgated in support of Quebec, fearing that such action of this Grand Chapter would not tend to allay, but rather to increase the bad feelings too often engendered by proclamations of non-intercourse, in some cases absolutely necessary. The subject is left to the consideration of the Grand Chapter as this committee desire unanimity in their recommendations, if at all possible."

The report was apparently laid on the table for future consideration.

M. E. Comp. H. D. Deblois, (Annapolis,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Geo. T. Smithers, (Halifax,) G. S.

OHIO.

The 69th Convocation was held at Cleveland, October 6th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. John W. Chamberlin, G. H. P., gave the following decisions :—

"Held that the action of Ohio Chapter No. 12, in granting a general release of jurisdiction over rejected candidate was illegal, and that the Chapter could properly instruct Secretary to notify the rejected brother that waiver had been improperly granted, and was therefore null and void.

That Chapter under dispensation can not receive members on dimit.

That a Chapter can not adjourn.

That a member preferring charges against the High Priest of a Chapter should present them to Grand Chapter.

That Grand High Priest could not grant dispensation to change time of meeting as fixed by by-laws of subordinate Chapter.

One of the petitioners for a new Chapter at time of organization under dispensation ordered his name stricken from petition, but it was not done. He was then elected to and served in office in the Chapter where he formerly belonged, both Chapters claiming him as a member. Held that in accordance with Decision 6, rules and regulations, he was a member of the new Chapter.

Held that the officers of a Chapter could be installed at a special convocation, called for that purpose, if within forty days after election.

That I knew of no law requiring candidates, applying for degrees to have resided one year in the Chapter jurisdiction.

A Companion Royal Arch Mason, Past High Priest of a Chapter in England, presents himself as a visitor, to a Chapter in this State, never having received the Mark, Past, or Most Excellent degrees.

Query. Can he sit in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons?

Answer. No. See Section 14, page 32, by-laws of Grand Chapter.

Query. Must he be healed in order to be present at the conferring of the other degrees?

Answer. Yes. See Section 40, constitution of General Grand Chapter.

Query. If so, must the Chapter ballot on his application for said degrees, and must they charge fees therefor?

Answer. I think Section 40, above referred to, would imply no as the answer. However, to become a member of the Chapter, he must petition the same as any other non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason.

That visitor could not be admitted in Chapter of Royal Arch Masons without satisfactory examination or proper voucher.

Ballot necessary for each degree and for Mark Master and Royal Arch Mason must be taken in Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

Held that it was obligatory on Chapters to use the pass adopted at last session of Grand Chapter for Grand Master of 3rd Veil."

Comp. Chamberlin made a large number of official visits and was very zealous in performing all his duties. On their present condition, he says:—

"There are a number of other Chapters supposed to be in a weak condition, and I wrote to the High Priests of twenty Chapters, whose condition judging from returns to Grand Chapter, might need investigation. The replies received from those whose situations are thought to be proper subjects for your consideration, are herewith submitted for that purpose. The visitations and investigations I have made during the year of delinquent Chapters I presume might have been entirely avoided with a great saving in both time and labor to me at least, for no complaints have been made and no invitations extended to visit these Chapters. What I have done in this direction has been voluntary on my part, and with an eye only to the best interests of capitular Masonry in this grand jurisdiction; and, although we number five Chapters less than we did one year ago, four having surrendered their charters and one arrested by order of Grand Chapter, still I believe it is better to have one live, wide awake Chapter

with active, zealous Companions as members, than two composed of listless, inactive members, possessing no interest in, or zeal for Masonry, and simply living because too weak to die. A perusal of the replies received to my letters of inquiry will show abundant material for your consideration, if not for your action, with plenty of opportunity for future investigation by my successor in office.

I am satisfied that charters for new Chapters are too readily granted; that the present requirements of the Grand Chapter are too easily complied with, and more obstructions should be placed in the way of obtaining them, as I have recommended elsewhere in this report. The reputation of the fraternity is not dependent so much on the quantity as the quality of its members. I am pleased to say that during the past year I have not received a single application for dispensation to establish a new Chapter, and none have been issued save the one ordered by the Grand Chapter at its last session."

A new amended constitution was submitted and approved for action in 1886. It appears printed in full in the proceedings, (24 clauses) with by-laws, (20 clauses) rules of order, (14) rules and regulations for the government of Subordinate Chapters, (45) resolutions of the Grand Chapter in force, (35) decisions of the Grand Chapter to the number of 119, abbreviated decisions of the General Grand Chapter, arranged under alphabetical headings and a copious index.

An exchange of representatives with the Grand Chapter of England having been proposed by the Grand Chapter of Ohio, the following reply was received:—

"GRAND SCRIBE'S OFFICE, FREEMASONS' HALL,
Great Queen Street, London, W. C., 29th Sept., 1884.

DEAR SIR AND M. EX. COMPANION :

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th of June last, proposing an exchange of representatives between the Grand Chapters of Ohio and England, and have laid the same before the Prince of Wales, our First Grand Principal.

In reply, I am commanded by His Royal Highness to say, that as the Grand Chapter of England has no established system of exchanging representatives with foreign grand bodies, he regrets that he is unable to comply with the proposal which you are good enough to make, but he trusts that the most fraternal feeling and good-will may ever exist between our Grand Chapter and that of Ohio.

Believe me to be yours fraternally,

SHADWELL H. CLERKE,
Colonel, G. S. E., England.

M. Ex. Comp. J. W. CHAMBERLIN,
Grand High Priest Grand Chapter of Ohio."

Washington and Dakota were recognized.

Comp. J. Kelly O'Neill reports on Correspondence. In his

notice of California he condemns their action in interfering between two bodies of the Scottish Rite and then says:—

“It would seem that if Grand Lodges, Grand Chapters, and Grand Commanderies attended to their own business, confining themselves to matters of which they rightfully have knowledge, it would be sufficient, without taking part in the quarrels of other organizations, with which they have no natural, necessary or legitimate connection. With the bodies under the control of Pike and Palmer or of the Cerneau extraction, we, as Royal Arch Masons, have no connection. Nor have we, as York Rite Masons, knowledge whether they are legitimate or illegitimate, or whether they are Masonic. Should they attempt to invade our jurisdiction and establish clandestine York bodies, it would then become our right and duty to take action—to speak out. But we perceive no propriety in a Grand Chapter attempting to determine the legitimacy of an organization of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, or Red Men, or of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.”

And again under “Colorado,”

“We have before intimated, perhaps said, that after a brother has shown himself qualified as a petitioner for, and has actually received the capitular degrees, we perceive no good reason why the body to which he has legally advanced should inquire of his membership in another, or why it should attempt to build up and sustain any other body by compelling him to retain membership and pay dues therein. It savors too much of the California Grand Chapter and Ohio Grand Commandery resolutions, relative to the other and independent organizations of which a Mason may become a member.”

We regret very much to learn that Comp. O'Neill has retired from the Reportorial Chair. His valuable reports have always been read by us with the greatest interest.

M. E. Comp. J. L'H Long, (Ottawa,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. James Nesbitt, (Troy,) G. S.

OREGON.

The 25th Convocation was held at Portland, June 8th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. F. N. Shurtleff, G. H. P.

A remarkable fact appears in the address, that during 18 years there has been no case of grievance brought before the Grand Chapter.

“I am very glad that I can again report that “Peace and harmony prevails throughout our jurisdiction.” This report having been made at each annual meeting of this Grand Chapter by my predecessors, I am afraid, companions, that we look upon it as a mere matter of form, and fail to realize what this statement does and should convey to each and every one of us.

We, as Masons, are taught that "Peace and harmony are the strength and support of all institutions." This being true, we, the Royal Arch Masons of Oregon, may justly feel proud that this rule and precept is lived up to in our jurisdiction, for I cannot call to mind, during the eighteen years that I have been a member of the Grand Chapter, that the Committee on Grievance has ever had one case before it. This, companions, is a glorious record, and it is my heartfelt wish that the same spirit of harmony may ever continue."

The presentation is recorded to Comp. T. McF. Patton, formerly Chairman of Correspondence, of a beautiful Past High Priest's Jewel. On the eve of his departure for his official post of duty in Japan.

One new Chapter received a dispensation.

It was decided that,

"An objection continues in force until removed by the objector, or expires by the death, dimission, or removal from the jurisdiction of the objecting companion."

By the adoption of a special report of the Committee on Correspondence, on the Quebec question, the following resolutions were passed :—

"*Resolved*, That until such time as the invasion of the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Quebec by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England shall be terminated by the withdrawal of the latter grand body from the territory in dispute, all Masonic intercourse between this Grand Chapter and Royal Arch Masons of its obedience, and the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England, and Masons of its obedience, shall cease ; and be it further

Resolved, That the M. E. High Priest of this Grand Chapter is hereby directed to issue his formal proclamation to carry the foregoing resolution into effect."

The following was carried :—

"*Resolved*, That the income of the past year from the Masonic Building Association Stock held by this Grand Chapter, be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to the use of the Masonic Board of Relief of the City of Portland, to be expended by them for such charitable or benevolent purposes as they may see fit and proper, and the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized to draw his warrant for the amount thereof in favor of said Board of Relief."

Comp. Robert W. Hill has proved himself a worthy successor to Comp. Patton. He does not altogether agree with his predecessor on some points. His report covers 140 pages, and is written in excellent style, using the best English, sound in argument and reasonable in conclusions.

We extract as follows :—

"Upon which we remark that this action on the part of the Grand Chapter of California is, to say the least, of an astonishing nature. By what right the Grand Chapter assumes to determine the legality or non-legality of other bodies we have no conception. We doubt whether the bodies selected for its commendation will feel very grateful for the championship of the Grand Chapter thus offered. The unwarranted interference in the affairs of other Masonic associations can not but meet with the condemnation of all who believe in the independence and power of self-government of the Grand Chapter. California must "prepare to repel boarders" if this action is generally countenanced by the craft, for it invites by this an examination into the origin of its own degrees which may develop a desire on the part of the Grand Lodge to control what may once have belonged to the Blue Lodge. To be sure, the Grand Chapter is fully competent to decide what bodies of Royal Arch Masons it will recognize—but as a Grand Chapter, whence does it derive its knowledge of Knight's Templar or Scottish Rite Work? And by what process of reasoning does it find those who choose to consider other degrees masonic, worthy of expulsion from the Royal Arch? All of these rites are independent of each other, and each must stand or fall alone. The Chapter can and must inquire whether a candidate for its degrees is a Blue Lodge Mason in good standing; but here its inquiry into his Masonic associates must end. He may have joined his fortunes with the Cerneau detachment, or yielded to the solicitations of the Babylonians, but these do not make him unworthy as a man or Mason. The conditions which the Chapter can exact are those only relating to its own degrees, and the sooner we recognize the limitations within which Capitular Masonry must confine itself, the better."

"Well said! The lodge and the Chapter are distinct organizations. There is no reason why the Chapter should toady to the lodge, and every reason why it should assert its independence. The Chapter must be independent, exercising the full powers of a separate institution, or it will cease to have any special value. The moment the lodge can make Capitular Masonry obey its dictates, that moment it will have practically destroyed its usefulness. The movement which seeks to subordinate the Chapter is pregnant with danger.

Upon this we remark, with somewhat of hesitation and the diffidence which is natural where the opinion of Comp. Fellows is to be questioned:

1st. That there should be even a doubt as to the power of the Chapter to try all cases where the peace, dignity and moral purity of the body and its members is in question, seems very strange. The relegation of 'offences against the moral law' to the blue lodge for trial, is not consistent with the honor or dignity of the Chapter. The Chapter ought to 'sweep her own house.' The doctrine so often accepted nowadays, that the Blue Lodge is the only proper tribunal for the trial of Masonic offences, is pernicious and dangerous, which leads us to remark:

2nd. The Chapter is not subordinate to the Blue Lodge. Whatever relations comity has decreed, the purity of each within its own sphere must be acknowledged. There are certain interests held in common, but no official relation *per se*. The lodge, as a lodge, knows nothing of the Chapter, and the Chapter can not forget that it is a distinct and independent body.

That our own Grand Chapter has subordinated, in a measure, the Chapter to the lodge, by asking the lodge as to the Masonic standing therein of Chap-

ter members, does not either shake our convictions or prevent our protest ; and we look forward, hopefully, to the time when the comity consistent with perfect independence in all matters affecting the standing of members shall be the rule governing all bodies composed of Masons.

This is the argument which makes the Chapter inferior in its powers to the lodge. But let us consider. While the Chapter requires all applicants for its degrees to be Master Masons, that fundamental requirement is an arbitrary one, and at the institution of the Order it was in the power of the founders to have either modified or omitted altogether that rule. That the limitation of membership to Master Masons gave the lodge voice or control of the newer Order, with its degrees, no more follows than if the prerequisite were knowledge of the mysteries of Ancient Egypt. The Chapter is essentially independent ; its degrees are its own ; the regulations for membership are within its control, and it possesses the only right to discipline offenders against its laws.

What else but confusion and conflict of authority can grow out of the other view ? Already the threat of interference to the extent of absolute control has been made by Blue Lodge Masons ; and if the concessions heretofore made are correct in principle, the Grand Lodges and their Subordinate Lodges will be fully warranted in demanding complete control and regulation of the Chapter."

M. E. Comp. James K. Weatherford, (Albany,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. R. P. Earhart, (Salem,) G. S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At the several quarterly Convocations in 1885 the work was exemplified in all the degrees.

Dakota was recognized.

The following are the resolutions proposed by the Committee on Correspondence on the Quebec question, and which were adopted by the Grand Chapter :—

" Resolved, That the principle of exclusive jurisdiction is the palladium of peace and harmony in the Masonic family, and whilst the Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of Pennsylvania regrets that the Grand Mark Lodge of England and Wales, etc., has entered the territory over which the Grand Chapter of Quebec has rightful exclusive jurisdiction, we fraternally recommend that said Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter make a renewed effort to harmonize the controversy now existing between them upon a basis that will ensure a permanent and lasting peace.

Resolved, that to that end the Most Excellent Grand High Priest of this Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter be and he is hereby fraternally requested to tender mediation between said Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter with a view to the settlement of said controversy in harmony with the principle of exclusive jurisdiction."

On the subject of life membership, we find the following as the concluding remarks in the report of the Committee on By-laws :—

"Chapter No. 52 has submitted an amendment to its By-Laws by which Companions who have been members and paid full dues for twenty years may, on application, be made Life Members without the payment of any fee. We are informed that this Chapter formerly had a similar clause in its By-Laws, but upon revising them some time since, inserted a clause requiring the payment of fifteen dollars for the fee for such privilege, and now they desire to return to the former law. It has been suggested that as the Grand Chapter has made it imperative in the cases of new Chapters not to make its Charter Members Life Members for a less fee than forty dollars, it shows clearly that it is your intent that some fee should in all cases be charged for Life Membership. Inasmuch as your Committee have in two or three cases approved laws containing a clause similar to said proposed amendment, we prefer leaving the question for your consideration so that if in your judgment such a law shall not be approved, those Chapters in whose laws it is to be found with your approval may have notice that such laws are disapproved by you."

The annual Convocation was held at Philadelphia, Dec. 27, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Geo. W. Kendrick, Jr., G. H. P.

In his address he says :—

"Through the earnest endeavours of my predecessors, Capitular Masonry has grown and increased in usefulness; and I have no doubt will continue to do so. I have visited, exemplified, instructed, criticised, and endeavored to impart such information as I hoped might be for the best interests of the Craft. It has been a proud satisfaction to realize the cordial greeting the warm firm giving and taking of the hand, indicating the true spirit of loyalty to the parent body.

The work performed in many subordinate bodies deserved and received our highest commendations, and will compare favorably with the exalted ideal of this Grand Body.

No conceivable imagination can fully appreciate nor realize the immense amount of benefit to be derived from frequent visitations of the Grand Officers ; the increased attendance, the apparent interest manifested, the earnest desire to learn the smallest details in the work, prove beyond question of doubt, the great good accomplished and gained. My visits outside of our city have been to such Chapters as seem to have been most neglected, some never having received a Grand Visitation since their constitution. The subordinates can be reported upon only by the supervision of their superiors.

The exemplifications in this Grand Chapter are of themselves schools of instruction, wherein every companion, be he an officer or not, is welcome, has an equal opportunity to familiarize himself with our ritual, so that should he visit another jurisdiction, we may have the proud satisfaction of his being introduced and recognized as a bright Royal Arch Mason from Pennsylvania, thereby giving credit to the teachings of our craft."

The report on Correspondence is by Comp. Samuel Harper, and notices Canada for 1885. We have no time for comments and will only make the following extracts :—

"We do not propose to criticise anything belonging to this subject, for

the reasons : first, that we are not advised as to the financial condition of these Chapters, and second, it would be impertinent to do so. Our only motive in mentioning it is, we believe that it illustrates the danger there is in a somewhat indiscriminate system of life membership. We are personally opposed to life membership in any and every form, and for this opinion we do not desire our Grand Chapter to be held responsible either directly or indirectly. We are old-fashioned enough to believe that annual dues are a tie that binds the member closer to his Chapter, and makes him prize its privileges much more. As they mature each year he is reminded of his duty, and his love for the Craft can, in a degree be measured by his promptness in paying. We are also of the opinion that Chapters have a right to control their own financial affairs, and for this opinion we are also alone responsible ; but we confess that when we come across a case of *felo de se*, where life members have been made for small fees, the money spent, and the Chapter dead, or miserably dying, we entertain a great deal of respect for those who honestly contend that the means of self-murder should be put out of reach.

We have been compelled to accept the system of life membership as a practical fact, and hence do not now insist upon our individual opinion. All that we can do is to use our influence to have it made practical. When life membership is based on the payment of a sum of money, that sum, with its income, for a reasonable number of years, should be in a fair proportion to the annual dues that would accrue in the same time, and the sum itself should be securely invested as a permanent fund. The latter suggestion is highly important. It is a mistake to make a life member for a small sum, but it is a greater mistake to spend the money after it is collected. Whether the fee be large or small is of but little importance if it is immediately expended.

When we referred to this subject we had no intention of writing so much and do not now intend to discuss this very large and very important subject at greater length. We have seen no little, and have heard a great deal more, of the evils which have flowed from unwise systems of life membership that we feel that we would be justified in making this the occasion for drawing the very considerate attention of the Companions of this jurisdiction to the subject."

"In some jurisdictions it is very stoutly contended that the powers of Grand Masters and Grand High Priests are limited and defined by the Constitution. Of course no such heresy is entertained in Pennsylvania, but it is interesting to know that when a necessity occurs some who do entertain it are sometimes willing to step outside of the Constitution. The Grand High Priest of California granted a dispensation to a Past High Priest to open a Chapter in the absence of the first three officers, when by the express provision of the Constitution a Chapter can be opened only when one of them is present."

"On this we beg leave to remark that if it is the duty of two-thirds of the members to remain until the close of the session it is equally the duty of the other third, and because one-third may see fit to desert their posts is no reason for denying to the remaining two-thirds the right to transact any proper business. There is no improper period of a session to introduce proper business, and it is for those who remain to say what shall be done with it; it certainly does not become those who run away from duty to complain of it when performed by others. It 'does not look well in a brotherhood of Masons' to charge the efforts of those who remain in the

honest discharge of their duty until the end of a session with smacking 'too much of mere party interests.' Rather let the cudgel fall upon the shoulders of those who voluntarily assume a duty and run away from it. Of course, we are not interested in the proposed legislation, we are interested in the higher and more general principle involved in it. There is in the fraternity too much ambition for high places simply for the honor they bring, and too little regard for the duties which they impose. Those who desert their posts and go junketing through the country should be held more responsible for improper legislation than those who remain to participate in it, and even if the proposed legislation in this case was not entirely wise, Companion Bowen is not under any obligation to apologize, much less to submit to censure for his conduct."

"The Grand Z. of Canada having decided that an objection to the advancement of a candidate cannot be entertained without cause, Companion O'Neill remarks: 'We dissent. The Ohio rule sustains us and we think rightfully. Masonry is strong enough to refuse to admit or advance any candidate between whom and any member perfect harmony and good fellowship cannot or does not prevail, and it should be sufficient that the fraternal feeling is absent, even if the particular reasons are not, and even cannot be given. The inability to give a reason—make specific charges—does not produce friendly feeling or create harmony.' This is a matter which depends upon the local law. The Grand Z. settled the Canada law, and while it is correct there it would be altogether wrong in Ohio, and the same thing may be said of the Ohio law; it is good there, but would be very bad in Canada, and, as we pass along, we may as well say, in Pennsylvania too. It is not a question as to the strength of Masonry, but rather as to its justice. The stronger an institution is the stronger is its duty to do right, and when a Lodge or Chapter has once admitted a man it is in duty bound to protect him in his rights. It is not a question of degrees or rank. The unsupported and unexplained 'I object' of one of many degrees should not be a barrier against the advancement of one of but a single degree. The inability to give a reason may not produce friendly feeling or create harmony, but it shows the objector to be an unreasonable man and altogether out of place in the Masonic family. The man who is unable to give a reason has, in point of fact, no reason at all, and the Ohio law puts it in his power to do a wrong not only to a brother, but to the Chapter. But we did not intend to discuss this subject, only to point out that the decision of the Grand Z. is correct law in Canada, and that it is sustained by that of Pennsylvania, which, we are safe in saying, is the oldest on the American continent.

"The subject is resumed under the District of Columbia, and we are informed that under the Ohio law a separate ballot is taken for each degree, and, as we infer, the ballot must be unanimously in favor of the applicant. We have no doubt that in this Companion O'Neill is correct, but he is in error when he says: 'The right to object has been universally recognized in the United States,' for the rule in Pennsylvania has been, a unanimous vote to enter, a majority to advance. On page 188 he quotes Companion Edwards, of New Jersey, as differing from him as to the right of a member to object after ballot to the initiation or advancement of a candidate, so we presume the right to object is not recognized in that jurisdiction."

M. E. Comp. G. W. Kendrick, Jr. (Philadelphia,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. Charles E. Meyer, (Philadelphia,) G. S.

QUEBEC.

The 9th Convocation was held at Montreal, January 26th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. John P. Noyes, Grand Z.

On the state of the craft at home, he says :—

“There has not been the slightest disturbing question raised during the year. I have not been called upon to give a decision of any kind between members or between Chapters. I attribute this not so much to the excellence of our constitution and the general comprehension of the ancient landmarks, as to the prudent conduct and fraternal spirit which our members possess. Admirable as our constitution is admitted to be, learned as our members are known to be in the written and unwritten law of Masonry, those alone would not prevent friction were it not that the Companions are imbued with the true spirit of Masonry. The constitutional ‘hair splitter,’ if he exists at all, does not get to the front.

The increase in membership is sufficiently reassuring ; whilst not large, it is in proportion to the increase in the Craft Lodges in the jurisdiction, and the quality of the material received indicates the esteem in which the capitular degrees are held by the craft. We are young in years as a Grand Chapter, situated in a territory where many external restrictions operate against us, with a divided allegiance that deters many, no doubt, from allying themselves with us, and yet year by year there is a steady advancement, significant of what the future has in store for us, when the Masons of Quebec are ranged under one banner and acknowledge one allegiance.”

He thinks that a companion should be eligible for the office of First Principal without having previously served as second and third Principal.

Also that it would be “for the advantage of Royal Arch Masonry in Quebec if its ritual conformed with those in use in the United States.” We would be glad to know which one of those in use in the United States is favored by Comp. Noyes. They can hardly adopt them all.

The address of Comp. Noyes then deals exhaustively with their position as regards the Grand Mark Lodge of England and the Grand Chapter of England. With the Grand Mark Lodge there has been no direct correspondence. An offer of mediation was received from the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania and duly replied to by Comp. Noyes that they would accept mediation on the basis of their having exclusive jurisdiction in their own territory, but not otherwise.

The Grand Z. had also offered to Bro. Badgley, the Chief Officer of the English Mark Lodges in Quebec, that if these lodges would surrender their warrants and affiliate with the Grand Chapter of Quebec, that Grand Chapter would confer

upon him the rank of the Past Grand Z., and elect one other of their number a Principal of the Grand Chapter and bury all past differences, but to this offer, no answer was received.

Otherwise, the position is the same as it was a year ago. Nearly all the Grand Chapters in the United States have endorsed the action of the Grand Chapter of Quebec and the General Grand Chapter is expected to do the same at its triennial session in Washington, next September.

As to the position of the Grand Chapter of Quebec with regard to the Grand Chapter of England, we are compelled to copy all that Comp. Noyes says in his address on this subject so that our readers may fully understand the situation :—

“ A short *resume* of previous action may aid in the proper understanding of our position in connection with the Grand Chapter of England. Previous to the formation of our Grand Chapter there was only one English warranted Chapter in the Province, and that was St. Paul's, connected with the Blue Lodge of that name, under the English system of attaching R. A. Chapters to Craft Lodges. At one time there had been a Victoria Chapter, warranted after the formation of the Grand Chapter of Canada, and before the separate existence of this Grand Chapter. but the warrant had been returned and its members constituted themselves into a new Chapter in 1864 under the name of Mount Horeb, now No. 6 of our Registry. Since the formation of this Grand Chapter a pretended resuscitation of that Chapter has been made, manifestly in bad faith and in violation of Masonic usage. In 1880 and 1881 there was some correspondence in reference to the matter, which will be found in Appendix A, page 33, etc., of our proceedings for 1883, of which I trust each member of the Grand Chapter will take communication.

At our Annual Convocation in 1884 it was decided that the time had arrived for action to be taken and Grand Chapter recommended the Grand Z. to confer with M. W. the Grand Master of the G. L. of Quebec in reference to united action to procure the withdrawal of the pretended authority of the English united Grand Chapter and Grand Lodge from this Province. In the event of such joint action not being had the Grand Z. was given discretionary powers as to the course he might think most advisable under the circumstances. It was assumed that joint action would be more effective in view of the peculiarity of English R. A. Masonry before mentioned, so that if the Blue Lodges should withdraw the R. A. Chapters would go with them. The M. W. the Grand Master declined to unite with the Grand Z., as proposed, who deferred action and reported to the Grand Chapter, recommending the issue of an edict of non-intercourse. At our last convocation that recommendation was approved and the Grand Z. authorized to issue an edict of non-intercourse whenever it might be deemed necessary and proper. In the meantime a partial edict of non-intercourse had been issued by M. W. the Grand Master of Quebec without producing any perceptible effect. The English Lodges and Chapters still remained, a constant menace to our jurisdictional rights and a disturbing element in our midst.

During the last summer I wrote M. W. the Grand Master of Quebec to ascertain his intentions as to separate or joint actions, or any action at all.

In appreciating the situation I felt that it might be as well for the Grand Chapter to await the result of any action the Grand Lodge of Quebec might take, should it decide to extend its edict to the Grand Lodge of England, inasmuch as its success would relieve the Grand Chapter from the English Chapters in our territory. The charge of aggressiveness was an honor the Grand Chapter did not covet, but its integrity as a sovereign Grand Chapter was at stake. Therefore I was willing, and so informed him, to join in an edict of non-intercourse, if he intended to take such action. The Grand Master declined to take any further action.

The Masonic press and our friends in other jurisdictions showed in many ways that it was expected that we should do something towards the vindication of our sovereignty. I did not well see how we could do otherwise without abandoning our Masonic manhood and placing ourselves in a most humiliating and indefensible position. We either had sole jurisdiction in Quebec or we had not. We were the Grand Chapter of Quebec or we were not. There was and is no middle ground. If we were such Grand Chapter with sole jurisdiction, and it had been asserted at our convocations time and again that we were, then it was necessary to at least attempt to sustain our dignity and assert our Masonic rights by the endeavor to clear our territory of foreign Chapters. The only alternative was to abdicate our functions as the Grand Chapter of Quebec under the implied admission that our recognition had been obtained under false pretenses. We had to enter the lists, willingly or unwillingly, to show our good faith or otherwise be treated as those who had dishonored Masonry and shown themselves unworthy of being recognized as members of our Grand Brotherhood.

In such a conflict we could not be the aggressors. We would only be acting in defence of our Masonic birthright, our Masonic homes and our Masonic existence. Masonic law and usage was in our favor. The fraternal recognition of the sister Grand Chapters had invested us with the rights and powers which that law and usage had provided for our continuance as a Grand Body. But that recognition had been given upon the assumption, not that we were willing and able to make war for our supremacy, but that we were supreme as the sole Grand Chapter of Quebec, and thereby imposed upon us as a sacred duty the necessity of showing that we were worthy of the trust and confidence reposed in us by the sister Grand Chapters in and by their several acts of fraternal recognition.

In the consideration of the policy to be adopted in furtherance of the intentions of the Grand Chapter, I gathered from its different utterances that the instructions given were to direct the Masonic weapons, not to individual R. A. Masons, or Chapters or groups of either of them, but, rather towards the central authority by which their existence was continued. We had grievances but no war with the English R. A. Masons or Chapters in Montreal apart from their parent Grand Chapter, or that we could logically distinguish as justifying an attack upon them distinct from the power that created and continued their existence. If that Grand Chapter withdrew its warrants and authority there would be an end of the difficulty. The subordinate Chapters could only exist through its support, and with the cessation of that support the trouble would cease.

The evils of concurrent jurisdiction, it is true, were brought nearer to us by those foreign Chapters in our midst, but it would be more wise and just to attack directly the root of the evil than to endeavor to remove it branch by branch. Nor did I conceive that we could with propriety demand the Masonic support of the sister Grand Chapters to attack

isolated Chapters, of which they could have no knowledge and with whom they could have no communication, except through their mother Grand Chapter. I hesitated to ask them to abide with us whilst we hunted the English Chapters by pairs. If it was a local domestic quarrel, as such a policy would indicate, they would be justified in declining an entrance to so undignified a disturbance. We should be reminded that a Grand Chapter only treated with its equals and not with sections of that equal.

After careful deliberation I wrote His Royal Highness the M. E. Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England in October last the following letter asking for the withdrawal of the authority of his Grand Chapter from this jurisdiction :

THE GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF QUEBEC.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND Z.

WATERLOO, 29th October, 1885.

To His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, &c., M. E. Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of R. A. M. of England.

M. E. COMPANION AND ILLUSTRIOUS SIR,

At the two last convocations of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, general instructions were given the Grand Z, as to the action to be taken relative to the Subordinate Chapters warranted by your Grand Chapter and existing within the territory of this Grand Chapter. The proceedings of those convocations have, I believe, been forwarded in due course, and explain the desires and intentions of this Grand Chapter in the premises. It will be seen therein that the Grand Chapter of Quebec respectfully claims exclusive jurisdiction over the Royal Arch Degree within its territory, declines to submit to a joint occupancy and fraternally protests against the continuance therein of the Subordinate Chapters warranted by the Grand Chapter of England.

It is now nearly ten years since this Grand Chapter was regularly formed, during which time it has been fraternally and officially recognized by the Sister Grand Chapters on this continent. Such recognition rested upon the principle governing the masonic bodies on this continent that the political and masonic territory were identical as to limits, and that the formation of a Grand Masonic Body in and for that territory gave it supreme control over all the degrees in its curriculum to the entire exclusion of any and all other Grand Bodies. Any other rule on this continent would lead to un-~~seemly~~ strife and to fraternal discord in the highest degree detrimental to freemasonry. I am led to believe that the attention of your Grand Chapter has been repeatedly called to this matter since the organization of this Grand Chapter, but without producing the results so much to be desired in the interests of masonic peace and harmony. On our part there has been a lingering hope that wise councils would eventually prevail, and that to strengthen a Grand Chapter which could trace its origin back to the Grand Chapter of England, and which was harrassed by difficulties to which other Grand Bodies are fortunately strangers, your Grand Chapter would courteously accede to our desires and withdraw its warrants and authority from Quebec and recognize our Masonic authority. It was thought that your Grand Chapter would have so acted upon the

request of Sister Grand Chapters in the United States or in the old world, and Royal Arch Masons of Quebec could not comprehend that their colonial condition entitled them to less consideration.

At the last annual convocation of this Grand Chapter, my immediate predecessor in office suggested in his address in the interests of the craft and for the preservation of peace and harmony, that a pledge be given to our English Companions in this province to the effect that if they surrendered their English warrants and affiliated with this Grand Chapter, at our next annual convocation the title of Past Grand Z. would be conferred upon their chief officer here. one of their number be elected as a Grand Principal and all differences be healed. That suggestion was unanimously and heartily approved, and in addition the Grand Z. was authorized on non-compliance with that proposition, or whenever he deemed it expedient, to issue an edict of non-intercourse.

To further the attainment of the object desired, in May last I wrote to R. E. Comp. Badgley, your chief officer in this province, calling his attention to the foregoing recommendation and action of this Grand Chapter, and soliciting his acquiescence in that or any other measure tending to procure an amicable adjustment of the difficulty. I regret to say that I have not been honored with a reply nor even an acknowledgment of its reception by him. His reticence, however, was not unexpected.

Under the circumstances no other course is open to me, to give effect to the instructions of this Grand Chapter, and maintain the principle under which it was formed, but to respectfully address myself to Your Royal Highness as Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England, relative to the matters hereinbefore mentioned. The necessity for this occasions deep regret, but I do not see that I can do otherwise.

The struggle for supremacy in this province causes considerable irritation. There are heartburnings and discord among Companions of the Order caused by the clashing of interests. Peace and harmony are impossible whilst the Subordinate Chapters of the two Grand Bodies are thus arrayed against each other in unfraternal rivalry. There is not room enough for the two in the province. The outside world is looking upon Masonry with disfavor. The sister Grand Chapters that recognized us in conformity with the general jurisdictional principle referred to, have a right to demand that we should assert and defend according to Masonic practice, our exclusive right to the territory and to the Masonic privileges conceded to us by them on our formation and recognition. It is a duty, the fulfilment of which, in a spirit of forbearance we have heretofore postponed, in the hope that time would bring our brethren to view the matter in a broader and more fraternal light, but we can neglect it no longer. We are willing and have always been willing to receive the English Royal Arch Masons in this province into our fold, either by the issue of new warrants or by affiliation, upon the surrender by them of the warrants of your Grand Chapter. We have tried by all the means in our power to accomplish this without trouble or annoyance. Our efforts have been futile and our offers rejected. There is no prospect at this time of further attempts at conciliation or for harmony being more successful than those of the past.

I am, therefore, reluctantly compelled to officially request Your Royal Highness as Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England, to withdraw all warrants of Subordinate Chapters of your Grand Chapter existing in this province, and to desist from further continuance therein or interference

with our legitimate Masonic territory. In the event of failure to comply with the above request on or before the first day of January next, I cannot do otherwise than to declare formally and officially the severance of fraternal relations between the two Grand Chapters and issue an edict of non-intercourse between the respective members thereof. Respectfully and earnestly hoping that this may be averted.

I have the honor to be,

Fraternally, your obedient servant,

JNO. P. NOYES,

Grand Z. of the G. C. of Quebec.

To this the following reply was received :—

UNITED GRAND CHAPTER OF ENGLAND.

FREEMASONS' HALL, GREAT QUEEN STREET, }
LONDON, W. C., 10th December, 1885. }

M. E. COMP. J. P. NOYES,

Grand Z. Grand Chapter of Quebec.

SIR AND M. E. COMP.—I have duly received and laid before the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England, your letter of the 29th October last, on the subject of the two Royal Arch Chapters which have for many years existed in Montreal under this Grand Chapter, and requiring that the charters of those Chapters should be withdrawn before the 1st January next, under pain—in case of non-compliance—of severance of fraternal relations, and the issue of an edict of non-intercourse between the members of the two Grand Chapters.

In reply, I am directed to call your attention to the previous correspondence which has passed as to the demand for withdrawal of the chartered Chapter 440, viz., your letters of 28th April, 18th October, 1880, and 14th June, 1881, with the replies from here of 10th January, 1880, 1st January and 21st November, 1881, by which you will perceive that the matter has already been fully considered, and that it has been decided that so long as these Chapters (which existed very many years before the formation of the Grand Chapter of Quebec) desire to remain under this Grand Chapter of England, they cannot be compelled to sever their allegiance thereto.

You are doubtless aware that about a year ago, a letter similar to yours now under reply, was addressed by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, who in his reply of 27th November, 1884, went fully into the matter, and explained that it was impossible to accede to the request then made, and this view was fully concurred in by the Grand Lodge of England.

The positions of the Craft Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters in Montreal, which have continued to hold allegiance to the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England, being practically identical, the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England can only now return a similar answer, viz., that in the present instance, it is also impossible to withdraw the two Royal Arch charters, as requested.

I have the honor to be,

Sir and M. E. Companion,

Your obedient servant,

SHADWELL H. CLERKE, Colonel,

G. S. E. of England.

"I have but a few words to say upon that letter. It will be seen that the Grand Chapter of England makes the position of the English Lodges and Chapters in Montreal identical—justifying the suggestion of this Grand Chapter as to the desirability of joint action with the Grand Lodge of Quebec in attempting to remove the English Lodges and Chapters from this Province. The statement that the Grand Chapter of England had decided that so long as those English Chapters desire to remain under that Grand Chapter 'they cannot be compelled to sever their allegiance thereto,' makes the decision that of the Grand Chapter of England alone. It is true that the English R. A. Masons can no more be compelled to sever their allegiance than they could be compelled to become subject to the allegiance of that Grand Chapter. It is on their part as individual Masons very much an operation of will. We have not asked for the severance of their allegiance with the mother Grand Chapter, but we have asked the Grand Chapter in substance to withdraw its authority from our territory and leave them the option of joining this Grand Chapter or of becoming isolated Masons. The Grand Chapter of England having issued the warrant or warrants can withdraw it or them, having granted the authority can revoke it. To pretend that the English Grand Chapter, by the issue of a warrant, abnegates its functions and authority so absolutely that it will be bound in perpetuity to submit to the action and will of the subordinate Chapter which it has created, is absurd on its face, unless used to illustrate that oft quoted physical impossibility of the tail's wagging the dog. In effect, it makes the agent superior in authority to his principal, the subject more powerful than his sovereign, and the subordinate Chapter the dictator of the Grand Chapter.

However, the meaning of it all is that the Grand Chapter of England declares its intention to remain in our territory, and to consider the will of its subordinates in Montreal as more weighty than its duty to a sister Grand Chapter, and more binding than Masonic law, usage and tradition. Thereupon the following Proclamation was issued:

GRAND CHAPTER OF ROYAL ARCH MASONS OF QUEBEC.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND Z.

PROCLAMATION

To all Companions and Members in Obedience to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, and to all Regular Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons Throughout the World.

Whereas, The said Grand Chapter of Quebec, since its formation in 1877, has had, in accordance with Masonic law and usage, the right to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over the Capitular degrees of Masonry within the territory of the Province of Quebec, and has been recognized by the sister Grand Chapters on this continent, under the application of the principle of co-terminous territorial, and Masonic jurisdiction, as a sister Grand Chapter. And

Whereas, There exists now, and has existed for some years, certain Royal Arch Chapters within the said territory of the Province of Quebec having warrants from the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England and holding allegiance thereto, which Royal Arch Chapters refuse obedience to the

Grand Chapter of Quebec, and are upheld in their refusal by said Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England. And

Whereas, The existence and continuance of such Royal Arch Chapters warranted by said Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England, within the territory of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, are not in conformity with Masonic law and tradition, are infringements upon the exclusive rights and sovereignty of said Grand Chapter of Quebec, and a disturbing Masonic element within its territory, fraught with perils to Masonic peace and harmony. And

Whereas, in the month of October last past I did, on behalf and in the name of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, represent to the Most Excellent the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England, the request of the said Grand Chapter of Quebec as formulated at its last annual convocation, for an amicable solution of the difficulty and the withdrawal of the warrants of its subordinate Chapters, and notify him that on failure of compliance therewith on or before the first day of January, 1886, fraternal relations would be severed and an Edict of non-intercourse issued. And

Whereas, the said Most Excellent the Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of England has refused to comply with said request and notification.

Therefore, be it known unto you all, that in vindication of the sovereignty and defence of the rights and prerogatives of the Grand Chapter of Quebec, in support of the generally recognized principle of exclusive jurisdiction before mentioned, and as an act of loyal justice to the sister Grand Chapters who have recognized the Grand Chapter of Quebec, I declare, in virtue of the authority vested in me as Grand Z. of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec and under the instructions of said Grand Chapter, that the action of said Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England in continuing the warrants of said subordinate Chapters in this Province, and in asserting a right to Masonic authority therein, is illegal and unfraternal under Masonic law, usage and tradition, and its said subordinate Chapters and the members hereafter to be made therein illegal and irregular under said Masonic law, usage and tradition.

In consequence whereof, I declare and proclaim all Masonic intercourse to be suspended and to cease between the said Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, its subordinate Chapters and all members thereof now in obedience thereto or to become obedient thereto, on the one hand, and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England, its subordinate Chapters and all members thereof now in obedience thereto or to become obedient thereto on the other; and all companions and members of the Grand Chapter of Quebec and its subordinate Chapters are hereby commanded to hold no Masonic intercourse for the future with any companion in obedience to said Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of England. This Edict to remain in full force and effect until revoked by the Grand Z. or the Grand Chapter of Quebec.

It is further ordered, that due proclamation of this Edict be made to all Companions and members of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec, of all which they are to take notice and govern themselves accordingly; and also that the same be communicated to all regular Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons throughout the world.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Quebec at Waterloo, in said Province, and Dominion of Canada, this seventh day of January, A.D. 1886.

ATTEST,

DAVID SEATH,
Grand Scribe E.

JOHN. P. NOYES,
Grand Z. Grand Chapter of Quebec.



And there the matter rests. It is for Grand Chapter to decide whether the mandate entrusted me in that respect has been judiciously exercised or not. I urgently request the careful consideration of the matter by Grand Chapter, not only that there may be an intelligent, broad and dispassionate judgment thereon, but because upon that judgment will largely depend the measure of support from sister Grand Chapters. If we are firm in defence of our rights we will be supported, but if we vacillate in our course or show ourselves indifferent as to the result, we need expect neither sympathy nor support because we should not deserve sympathy nor support."

The Grand Z. also mentions the fact that he has received an application for a warrant for a new Chapter to be formed in the colony of Victoria, Australia, and that he had declined to grant the request. He intimates, however, that the time may come when it will be advisable to "carry the war into Africa."

In his remarks on the General Grand Chapter, the Grand Z. thinks it is probable that their difficulty with the Grand Chapter of England may receive attention as well as their dispute with the Grand Mark Lodge, and he recommends the appointment of a special committee to attend the meeting of that body, and watch over their interests.

The Committee on the address reported in part as follows, and their report was adopted :—

"In reference to the ritual they would, in the event of no report being received from the special committee thereon at this convocation, recommend its discharge and the appointment of a new committee to be composed of one member from each district in the jurisdiction."

Your committee heartily endorse the action and correspondence had by the Grand Z. with the M. E. the Grand Chapter of Pennsylvania in reference to the offer of fraternal mediation between our Grand Chapter and the Grand Mark Lodge of England, and recommend that the Grand Z. be authorized to carry out the same in the manner that he may think best, but upon the conditions set forth in his address. They concur fully with him as to the loyal character of the action of that Grand Chapter and the fraternal intent of the proffer of mediation.

The continued endorsement of our conduct in the difficulty with the Grand Mark Lodge, by the sister Grand Chapters on this continent, places

us under renewed obligations to continue the course previously adopted of upholding our authority over the Mark work in this Province; and we recommend the renewal and continuance of the resolution of the committee on the address of Grand Z. adopted in 1884.

Your committee fully coincide and endorse the action of the Grand Z. in issuing an Edict of non-intercourse with the Grand Chapter of England. They find that his action in so doing was in accord with his instructions from the Grand Chapter, and that he used wisely and prudently the discretionary power confided to him. They regret that concurrent action was not had with the Grand Lodge in the matter.

They agree with the Grand Z. in relation to the application for recognition and representation between this Grand Chapter and the General Grand Chapter of the United States, if such is the practice of the latter, and would suggest that the Grand Z. and Grand Scribe E. be appointed a committee to attend the next triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter of the United States on behalf of this Grand Chapter, with full power and authority to act for and in its name in connection with any and all matters which may be brought before the General Grand Chapter relating to the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter in its legitimate territory, or any question affecting this Grand Chapter that may there and then be brought up; and that any one of them may act alone as such representative, with the further permit to the Grand Z. to name a substitute to act for him or either of them in the event of inability to attend such triennial convocation.

Your committee, whilst gratified at the application from Victoria to this Grand Chapter for a warrant to constitute a Chapter in that jurisdiction, in so far as it conveys their appreciation of a desire to affiliate with us a sister Province, nevertheless are compelled to approve of the action of the Grand Z. in connection therewith. They do not think it expedient at the present time to go beyond the limits of our particular territory, nor are they at present in possession of sufficient data to warrant the recommendation of further action."

The Special Committee on Ritual declared their inability to report. They were discharged and a committee appointed to report at the next convocation.

We regret to notice the death of R. E. Comp. John S. Bowen, who has been living in Brooklyn for some years past, and who died on the 31st of July, 1885, aged 49. He was Grand Principal Sojourner of the Grand Chapter of Canada in 1866 and held the position of our Grand Representative near the Grand Chapter of New York since 1871. He was a very active and energetic member of our Grand Chapter for several years and will be remembered by the "old timers" as a genial and loving friend and a whole-souled companion.

The report on correspondence is by Comp. Will. H. Whyte.

Under the head of Arkansas, he very appropriately says:—

"On the 4th of July, publicly installed the officers of a Lodge and a Chapter at what we should judge to be a picnic. Patriotism and masonry

or rather Masonic display may have made the occasion memorable and helped to attract the crowd, but to our mind all display to the outside world of any part of our rites or ceremonies is not Masonic nor yet in good taste, but *chacun a son gout*."

Our proceedings for 1885 receive a good notice.

M. E. Comp. John P. Noyes (Waterloo), Grand Z.

R. E. Comp. David Seath (Montreal), G. S. E.

RHODE ISLAND.

The 87th Convocation was held at Providence, March 10th 1885.

M. E. Comp. Nichols Van Slyck, G. H. P.

He delivered a brief address, stating that the usual dispensations had been granted and that as no question of importance had come before him during the year, and as every thing was progressing with the usual harmony, it did not seem to him necessary to take up the time with a long written address.

The requests for recognition of Washington and Dakota were referred to a committee.

The proposal mentioned to us last year, to deprive unaffiliated Master Masons of their membership in the Chapter, was discussed at length and finally negatived. Very rightly so, say we.

For the same reasons, we cannot approve of the following resolution, which was adopted:—

"*Resolved*, That any Chapter in this jurisdiction may drop from the roll of its members any Companion who shall remain an unaffiliated Master Mason for more than one year without making an application to a Lodge for membership, first giving him thirty days' written personal notice of such intended action."

We think it is an unjust and arbitrary interference with the rights of a Royal Arch Mason to require him to continue his membership in any body whatever, as a condition of his retaining his good standing in the Chapter. As a requisite for admission to the Chapter it is all right to require an applicant to be a Master Mason, but after exaltation we can see no rhyme or reason in forcing him to pay dues to both bodies. Such a course is not in accord with our broad notions of Masonic Charity. It is too illiberal to suit us, and we think it will soon be away behind the times.

At closing this Grand Chapter, the records are read and ap-

proved, and the members dine together in the Council Chamber, "As has been the custom in these plantations from time immemorial."

M. E. Comp. E. L. Freeman, (Central Falls,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. R. Greene, (Providence,) G. S.

SCOTLAND.

Between March, 1884 and March, 1885, charters were granted to 12 new Chapters, as follows:—

- No. 200. The Mylne, Warwick, Queensland.
- " 201. New Monkland, Airdrie, Lanarkshire.
- " 202. The Devon, Forth, Tasmania.
- " 203. Star of India, Calcutta.
- " 204. Kennedy, Mackay, Queensland.
- " 205. Rockhampton, Rockhampton, Queensland.
- " 206. Charters Towers, Charters Towers, Queensland.
- " 207. The Townsville Queensland, Townsville, Queensland.
- " 208. Duke of Edinburgh, Goulburn, New South Wales.
- " 209. Maes Howe, Kirkwall, Orkney.
- " 210. Falkirk, Falkirk, Stirlingshire.
- " 211. Duke of Albany, Maryborough, Queensland.

A sub-committee was appointed to take up consideration of a recommendation by the auditor, to have a re-valuation of the securities held by the Grand Chapter.

At the Quarterly Communication, held on September 17th, 1884, the following proceedings were on the proposal to exchange representatives with the Grand Mark Lodge of England:—

"M. E. Comp. The Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, Second Grand Principal, then moved the adoption of the motion, notice of which was given at last Quarterly Communication—"That Supreme Grand Chapter exchange representatives with the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England and Wales." The motion was seconded by Comp. R. S. Brown, Pr. Z of No. 169.

Comp. Dr. Dickson, G. S. N., moved the previous question, contending that, as in St. John's Masonry, the Mark is considered to be only a part of the Fellow Craft Degree, and, as it is recognized and taken charge of by Supreme Grand Chapter simply as an accessory Degree, the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters of England are on an entirely different level and footing, and could not, therefore, exchange representatives with that body.

Comp. Alexander Hay, Grand Recorder, in supporting the motion, desired to have an addition made to the motion—"That the representative appointed should be a Royal Arch Mason."

The previous question, moved by Comp. Dr. Dickson, not finding a seconder, the original motion, with the addition of—"Provided always

that the representative appointed shall be in possession of the Royal Arch Degrees,' was unanimously adopted.' "

At a committee meeting on February 20th, 1885, a communication was read from the Earl of Mar and Kellie, intimating his intention of relinquishing the office of First Grand Principal at the approaching annual election. The committee resolved to solicit the acceptance of the office by Col. Sir Archibald C. Campbell, Grand Master Mason of Scotland.

There appears to be only one Mark Lodge on the roll of this Grand Chapter that is in active operation. This Mark Lodge, which is No. 19, located at Melbourne, Victoria, was granted power to alter their number to No. 0.

Past First Principals, who are subscribing members, are now members *ex officio*, of the Provincial Grand Chapters.

The practice of presenting a collar and jewel to representatives to foreign Grand Chapters was ordered to be resumed. It was also resolved that the jewels and collars should continue the property of the Grand Chapter and are to be returned by the representatives when their commission of appointment cease.

The income of the year was £643 6s. od., and the expenditure, £331. 13s. 3d. The funds on hand amount to £4,062 16s. 5d.

Up to March, 1886, two other new Chapters received warrants, namely, at Forbes, New South Wales, and Simons Town, Cape Colony.

On the *status* of Scotch Mark Masons, the following replies were received from the Grand Mark Lodge:—

"*First*—From the Right Hon. the Earl of Kintore, M. W. Grand Master.

'As regards the status accorded by this Grand Lodge and the private lodges under its jurisdiction to brethren who have been advanced as Mark Masters, either in a Scotch Craft Lodge or in a Scotch Royal Arch Chapter, since the happy recognition by the bodies governing the Mark Degree in Scotland and England, it has been invariably ruled that Scotch brethren are recognized as, in every respect, regularly advanced members of the Order, are received in our lodges as visitors, simply obligated to allegiance to the Grand Lodge when offering themselves as joining members of lodges under my jurisdiction.'

Second—From the Right Hon. Lord Henniker, Past Grand Master, and Representative from the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland.

'In reply to your enquiry, I have to say that all Scottish Brethren regularly advanced, either in a Craft Lodge holding of the Grand Lodge

of Scotland, or in a Royal Arch Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Scotland, are acknowledged by the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons and its subordinate Lodges, and will be freely admitted as visitors, subject, of course, to the by-laws made by each private lodge relating to the admission of visiting brethren.'

Third—From Brother F. Bincks, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons.

'All Scottish Brethren regularly advanced, either in a Craft Lodge holding of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, or in a Royal Arch Chapter, will be acknowledged by this Grand Lodge and its subordinate Lodges: and will be freely admitted as visitors, subject, of course, to the by-laws of private lodges relating to the admission of visiting brethren.'"

The sum of two hundred and fifty pounds was voted as a contribution towards the "extended scheme of Scottish Masonic Benevolence."

Income, £580 15s. 1d. Expenditure, £330 18s. 2d.
Funds on hand, £4,312 13s. 4d.

The following are the principal officers:—

COL. SIR A. C. CAMPBELL, Bart.,	First Grand Principal.
THE RIGHT. HON. THE EARL OF MAR	
AND KELLIE,	Past First Grand Principal.
WILLIAM MANN, S.S.C.,	Deputy Grand Principal.
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF KINTORE,	Second Grand Principal.
FREDERICK E. VILLIERS, of Closeburn,	Third Grand Principal.
WILLIAM EDWARDS,	Grand Scribe E.
DR. GEORGE DICKSON,	Grand Scribe N.
WM. OFFICER, S.S.C.,	Grand Treasurer.
ALEXANDER HAY,	Grand Recorder.
DR. JOHN FALCONER,	Grand Chancellor.
J. T. S. ELLIOT, Yr. of Wolfelee,	First Grand Sojourner.
GEORGE CHRISTIE of Southfield,	Second Grand Sojourner.
J. H. BALFOUR, W.S.,	Third Grand Sojourner.
J. DALRYMPLE DUNCAN,	Grand Sword Bearer.
WM. HAY,	Grand Superintendent of Works.
JAMES CRICHTON,	First Grand Standard Bearer.
COL. J. TODD STEWART,	Second Grand Standard Bearer.
JOHN TAYLOR,	Grand Janitor.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

The 74th Convocation was held Charleston, February 10th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. G. D. Bryan, G. H. P.

The address is brief and calls for no special comment.

The proceedings were entirely local.

M. E. Comp. G. D. Bryan, (Charleston,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke, (Charleston,) G. S.

The 75th Convocation was held at Charleston, February 9th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. G. D. Bryan, G. H. P.

He reports peace and harmony, and recommends that some steps should be taken to increase their finances. Their income has not always been sufficient to meet their expenses, and it is deeply regretted that the Report on Correspondence could not be printed, and he says that steps should be taken looking to this end.

On the subject of increasing their finances, the Committee reported, and their report was adopted as follows :—

“We do not think that it would be to the interest of Capitulary Masonry to adopt either of the remedies for our present financial condition, suggested by the M. E. Grand High Priest, but confidently hope with the present prospect of revival of interest in the Order through the State, that this Grand Chapter will soon be placed upon a firmer financial basis.”

Quebec was sustained.

From the memorial tribute to M. E. Comp. Wilmot DeSaussure, Past Grand High Priest, we take the following :—

“To name his name, is to bring up at once to our minds the pure, and the Christian gentleman, the earnest philanthropist, the zealous and faithful Mason. Prominent wherever good was to be done, active wherever the need of his fellow men called for activity, tender as a woman, true as steel, and yet with all the vigor and manliness of manhood.

‘None knew him but to love him
None named him but to praise.’

In our Order, and especially in the work of a Chapter Mason his record was bright. Filling every position from a Mark Master to Most Excellent Grand High Priest, he in every position exhibited that self-sacrificing devotion to duty which was so leading a feature in his character. Untiring in research, he brought to light from the buried annals of the past, the early history of Chapter Masonry in this jurisdiction, known before that time to but few.

Presiding with courtesy and dignity, faithful in the discharge of every trust he filled the chair, and managed the affairs of this Grand Chapter with singular ability and success. And now only do we fully realize, after he has left us, of what value and importance, his advice and services were.

Therefore, to give fitting expression to the feeling of this Grand Chapter, be it

Resolved, That in the death of Wilmot G. DeSaussure, Past Most Excellent Grand High Priest, this Grand Chapter in particular and the whole Order of Masonry has lost a true and valued companion and co-worker.

Resolved, That we each realize that the loss has been to each of us, that of an individual friend. We find one gone upon whom we were wont to rely, and there is none to take his place.

Resolved, That we ask leave to express to those whose kindship made them near to him, our sense of our loss, and our sympathy in their deep affliction.

Resolved, That a blank page in our minute book be dedicated to his memory, and that a copy of this preamble and these resolutions be sent to the family of our late companion."

M. E. Comp. J. E. Breazeale, (Anderson,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. J. E. Burke, (Charleston,) G. S.

TENNESSEE.

The 57th Convocation was held at Nashville, January 25th, 1886.

M. E. Comp. William S. Matthews, G. H. P.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a practical document and full of good suggestions. Comp. Matthews is evidently alive to the necessity of reform in many particulars in order that this particular branch of our Masonic structure should flourish as it ought to.

We make the following extracts :—

" But though the road be rough and rugged, and the rubbish of error fill the path, yet there is manna to be found that will strengthen our efforts. For every life there is a summit that can only be reached by many a weary step. and if at the end we find the Temple in ruins and many an enemy waiting to prevent us from rebuilding, with sword in hand let us fight for the true against the false ; overthrow the strongholds of pride, selfishness and error by undermining with spade, pick and crow, and when we have removed the rubbish we shall discover the true stone of perfect Truth upon which we can safely build a Temple that can never be destroyed.

All this requires earnest, co-operative work. Would Hiram have built the Temple, made the walls sacred with the presence of his gigantic mind, or would Solomon's thoughts have become the treasures of the world if they had awaited inspiration without working often, very often, like drudges and toiled while others slept ? The harder we work, the closer we love.

The haste in conferring degrees, frequently all four in one day, has been and will continue to be (unless corrected) one of the greatest causes of the decline and lack of interest in the Chapters. I believe it cannot be successfully controverted that not one Mason in twenty-five, after memorizing the lectures, can confer in one day the four degrees and give the lectures as they ought to be done ; yet we find R. A. Masons who have passed through all the degrees in one day and expect to appreciate such work and understand the degrees as they would if sufficient time had elapsed for them to learn their meaning I therefore recommend that no candidate be advanced, except by dispensation, unless he shall have learned the grips, signs, words and obligation of the degree and been examined in open lodge as to his proficiency. If the law of our Grand Lodge which requires a full description to be learned is of any benefit to the Craft, and it unquestionably is, then the above requirement, if carried out, will promote the good

of our Chapters and put new life and vigor into them. The applicant who is unwilling to learn at least these few necessary steps by which alone he can make himself known, and by which he will have a proper conception of the nature and extent of his obligations, will never prove such material as is required to build up our organization.

I recommend that a law be made providing for the consolidation of Chapters, rather than the complete extinguishment of membership by forfeiture of charters as now practiced.

Also that our representatives to the General Grand Chapter be instructed to ask that body to revise and complete a ritual of the Chapter degree, one or more copies to be sent to each Grand Chapter. One reason for this recommendation is that there has been no complete revision of the work adopted—although certain parties are now flooding the country with what purports to be the work of the General Grand Chapter.

I recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to collate the decisions of the General Grand Chapter, and of this Grand Chapter, and our Grand High Priests, since 1865, and that the same be published with our Proceedings, and that suitable compensation be allowed.

I believe it would be of great advantage if the Committees on Dispensations and by-laws, and on Masonic Jurisprudence should be required to meet on Monday, in order that they might inform themselves and have time to prepare their reports before the opening of the Grand Chapter.

“The Grand Chapter and Grand Council meet on Monday and the Grand Lodge on Tuesday. This arrangement necessitates the transaction of the business of the Grand Chapter in too hurried and brief a time. There should be more opportunity for deliberation. I therefore recommend the appointment of the four principal officers of the Grand Chapter to wait upon the Grand Lodge and ask that body to select Wednesday as the day of meeting. By this change the Grand Council and the Grand Chapter could each have a day to transact business, and the change would not incur upon the Grand Lodge any additional cost or labor.

The foregoing recommendations, or many of them, may, at first glance, appear too radical and perhaps unnecessary, but I am convinced that unless there is a change in the policy of this Grand Body, especially as to the proficiency of candidates and as to visiting of Chapters, we will not flourish. The responsibility rests upon us, and I sincerely hope that these matters will not be lightly or carelessly passed by, but that each measure will be given a fair and careful examination. By so doing we will carry out one great object of our meeting—the diffusing of light and knowledge as well as cultivating those truly Masonic virtues, charity and tolerance of opinion.”

He notices the death of Comp. John McClelland, for several years Grand Treasurer.

One new Chapter received a dispensation.

Washington and Dakota were recognized.

The Grand Lecturer was “discontinued,” owing to their financial condition.

The Grand High Priest was directed to appoint as many Grand Lecturers as he may deem necessary for the purpose of

visiting and instructing the Subordinate Chapters, but no expense to be incurred thereby to the Grand Chapter.

No report on Correspondence,

M. F. Comp. Bradford Nichol, (Nashville,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John Frizzell, (Nashville,) G. S.

VIRGINIA.

The 78th Convocation was held at Old Point, October 7th, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Francis H. Hill, G. H. P.

On their condition, he says :—

“From the returns thus far received from our Subordinate Chapters any great increase in our numerical strength is not indicated. But, Companions, it is a consolation to know that our strength does not lie in our numbers, but rather in the practice of the noble tenets and cardinal virtues of our profession. In that respect we are strong. The Chapter is intermediate to the Blue Lodge and Commandery of Knights Templar. The Chapter degrees are an essential prerequisite to Knighthood, and I am inclined to the opinion that therein, partially, is our deprivation of numbers. Some eminent Masonic writers have designated the ‘Blue Lodge as the useful,’ and the ‘Commandery as the ornamental part of Masonry.’ I am not competent to express any opinion on the merits of the distinction drawn. In this free country every person is entitled to hold and express opinions, provided, in this latter case, they are harmless to his fellow man. I can bear evidence to the universal usefulness of the Blue Lodge, and also to the fact that a knowledge of the Chapter degree is an essential to a clear understanding and conception of the Lodge degrees.”

He formed one new Chapter.

Quebec was sustained and non-intercourse declared with the Grand Mark Lodge of England.

A section of the methodical digest was repealed and re-enacted to read as follows :—

“1. On the first evening of every Grand Annual Convocation a Committee of Five—expert Companions—shall be appointed by the Grand High Priest, to be called the Working Committee, whose duty it shall be to exemplify such degree, or degrees, as the Grand High Priest may designate. That the said committee, with the Grand Lecturer, shall meet two days before the Convocation of the Grand Chapter, and that the Committee on Finance and investment be instructed to pay the traveling expenses of the members of said committee to and from the place of meeting and two days’ board.”

The following were also adopted :—

“*Resolved*, That any Companion in good standing has a right to withdraw his membership in a Chapter at his pleasure, and that he is entitled to

a receipt for the payment of his dues and a declaration of his good standing at the time of his withdrawal.

Resolved, That in the opening of a Chapter, if there be present any Companion who has not received the Council degrees, that such person be respectfully requested to retire until the Chapter is regularly opened."

The committee on the address reported in part as follows, and their report was adopted :—

"We cordially endorse the opinion that the practice of the moral precepts of Masonry is more desirable than numerical strength, and we agree with the Most Excellent in the intimation that, at this time, Capitular Masonry in Virginia is but a stepping-stone to Templar Masonry.

That the inefficiency of officers and want of proficiency of candidates for promotion are serious obstacles to the success of Capitular Masonry we do not doubt, but to enforce the resolutions of 1864 would, in the opinion of your committee, arrest the exaltation of candidates indefinitely. The suggestion that these resolutions be re-adopted we do not approve, and recommend that ability of a candidate to make himself known as having received the preceding degree shall be an essential for promotion. On this we submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That no candidate shall be promoted by a subordinate Chapter till he satisfy its Grand Council of his ability to make himself known as having received the preceding degree.

We regret that we can but recognize the fact of there being too many suspended Chapters and hope a remedy for this growing evil may be promptly devised."

The new Grand Chapter of Washington Territory was recognized.

There is no report on Correspondence.

M. E. Comp. R. T. Craighill, (Lynchburg,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. W. B. Isaacs, (Richmond,) G. S.

WASHINGTON.

The First Convocation was held at Tacoma, June 2nd, 1885.

M. E. Comp. Louis Ziegler, G. H. P.

From his excellent address, we make the following extracts :

"The existence of our Grand Chapter as an independent and sovereign body is only eight months, yet in that short space of eight months much hath already been done, much as yet remains for him to do that follows me; and he will meet with ample opportunities and many chances to improve on all that I have done and left undone. Yet withal I have this consolation left to me, that I have tried to do my duty honestly, fearlessly and impartially. and wherever I have failed or gone amiss, believe it, my Companions, an error of the head and not of the heart. All beginnings, however small, are difficult and trying, and mistakes and errors are liable to creep upon us unawares, for I assure you, my Companions, that 'to step aside is human,' and as all things are finally for the best, so will my mis-

takes and short-comings at least serve as a guide-board and a signal-tower to my successor to warn him against loss and danger.

On this our first annual Grand Convocation, I extend to you all a hearty and fraternal welcome; from the young Craftsman who pays us his first vi-it, to the aged and tottering Companion who pays us his last. Also, in the name of the Grand Chapter of Washington, for the first time, I say, welcome! Washington is a name endeared to every true American citizen, Washington Territory is a domain endeared to every man, woman and child within her borders. Washington Territory is an empire in size and also in importance; the natural resources of her untold wealth are beyond computation, and when once developed, her agricultural, mineral and commercial pursuits will produce results that will astonish the world, and will place Washington in the front rank of the great and wealthy states of our Union."

"On February 5th, I received a communication from a High Priest of one of our Subordinate Chapters, which hath caused me to issue the following edict:

OFFICE OF THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

To the Most Excellent High Priest, King, Scribe and Companions of the Subordinate Chapters of the Jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Washington Territory, Greeting:

MY BELOVED COMPANIONS:—It hath come to my knowledge and been represented to me from reliable sources that many of our Companions go amiss, and so far forget themselves and their obligations as Masons, and especially as Royal Arch Masons, by indulging in that pernicious and most degrading of practices, viz.: gambling and keeping of gambling dens, which is bound to bring disgrace upon our Fraternity, and hath caused the following questions to be propounded by the High Priest of one of our Subordinate Chapters:

'What are we, as Royal Arch Masons, doing, in allowing members of our Chapters, who openly gamble on Sundays and week days, to remain members in good standing in our Chapters, and being odium and disgrace to our Order? Is there no law by which we can wipe out such stain? If there is, we want you to point the same out to us, and direct us how to proceed in the matter, for I tell you, something must be done, or Royal Arch Masonry will suffer. Now, you are the head of our Order, and the one for us to look to for counsel and advice, and to direct us what step to take to make Royal Arch Masons stop gambling, or cease to be member of our Chapters, thereby making Royal Arch Masonry what it should be in our communities.'

Now, my beloved Companions, it is with sorrow and regret that I review the foregoing communication, and sincerely hoped that such a state of affairs did not exist within our borders. Indeed, it was thought the Companions of our beloved jurisdiction were not addicted to the vice of gambling when our Grand Chapter was formed and organized, for our constitution and by-laws are entirely silent so far as to provide for the punishment of, and inhibit the practice of gambling. Your Grand High Priest, therefore, is forced to go beyond our constitution and by-laws for enactments, edicts and decisions that may bear upon this most pernicious of moral and Masonic offences, and I quote the following, both fundamental and local, decisions whereupon to predicate the edict or decisions hereunto appended:

Regulations of 1663, article 2, says : ' That no person shall hereafter be accepted a Free Mason but such as are of able body, honest parentage, good reputation, and an observer of the laws of the land.'

Ancient Installation charges of 1685, article 6, says : ' Ye shall truly pay for your meat and drink wheresoever ye go to table or board. Also ye shall do no villainy whereby the craft or science may be slandered or come to shame.'

Ancient charges at making of Masons, article 8, says : " That every Mason do reverence to his elders ; and that every Mason be no common player at cards, or dice, or hazzard ; or at any other unlawful plays through which the science and craft may be slandered or dishonored.'

Ancient charges of 1721, article 5, says : ' All Masons shall work honestly on working days that they may live creditably on holy days ; and the time appointed by the laws of the land, or confirmed by custom, shall be observed.'

In addition to the above authority the different Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters of the United States have acted and spoken, viz. :

Grand Lodge of Louisiana, 1856, says : ' It is the imperative duty of Masons to abstain from gambling, profane swearing, intemperance and evil speaking.'

Grand Lodge of Indiana, 1818, : Any kind of gambling or betting is unmasonic and subjects the offender to admonition, suspension, or expulsion.'

Grand Lodge of Iowa, 1855.— ' The vices of gambling and intemperance are a direct violation of Masonic principles and morality, and Lodges are required to bring to immediate account any member known to indulge in them.'

Grand Lodge of Texas, 1847.— ' Intemperance, profanity and gambling are derogatory to the principles of Free Masonry, and Lodges are urged to enforce the ancient usages for their suppression.'

Grand Lodge of Texas, 1852.— " A Lodge has power and, and it is its duty to suspend for drunkenness, or for gambling.'

Grand Lodge of Tennessee, 1857.— ' Gambling is unmasonic and should be punished.'

Grand Lodge of Illinois, 1857.— ' Lodges may reprimand, suspend or expel for intemperance, profanity or gambling.'

Grand Chapter of New York, 1854,— ' High offences in masonry deserve severe discipline.'

Now, my dear Companions, from the foregoing it will appear to every clear and right minded Mason, that the crime of gambling when indulged in by members of our Chapters, must entail consequences which will prove disastrous and destructive to the welfare and usefulness of our beloved institution, and to the individual Mason who is held within the folds of this monstrous vice. Indeed, my beloved Companions, the vice of gambling, unlike any other vice, is of all vices most dangerous and baneful to integrity, honor, morality and true manhood. It fastens itself upon the victim like a boa constrictor and never loosens its hold until the last drop of honor, truth and manhood is extracted from every fibre of the poor victim, even to the marrow, leaving him cold and desolate and destitute for ever. The murderer, the thief and the drunkard have hours of regret and remorse. The gambler hath none. All the finer sensibilities

of human nature become extinguished, and truth, that mighty incentive of the Royal Arch Mason, flies before the moral corpse of the hardened gambler as the dove sweeps before the ravenous hawk. The hardened gambler hath but these faculties left him, deception, fraud, and wilful falsehood. He knows no friendship, and the blessings of wife and child have no more charms for him. He becomes a deceiver and defrauder of his best friends and a sordid liar to his household.'

In view of the foregoing, therefore, I, Louis Ziegler, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Washington Territory, by the power in me vested by the constitution of our Grand Chapter and the laws of Masonry, do hereby declare and decide that the practice of gambling, or keeping of gambling houses or tables, is a violation of the laws of the land as well as that of moral and Masonic principles, and any Companion Royal Arch Mason who so far forgets his O. B. as to be guilty of the aforesaid crime shall be admonished to desist from further violation. But if he neglects or refuses to heed and continues to violate as aforesaid, he shall be put upon trial and if found guilty he shall be suspended or expelled as the merits of the case may demand. And I hereby call and enjoin upon the High Priests of the several Subordinate Chapters of this jurisdiction to see that this edict and decision is carried into full effect.

Given under my hand and seal at the city of Spokane Falls, Washington Territory, this 16th day of February, A. D., 1885, A. I., 2415.

LOUIS ZIEGLER,
Grand High Priest of Washington Territory.'

They have succeeded in adopting a uniform system of work for all the subordinates to use and practice. They will perform a still greater feat if they can succeed in keeping it uniform.

Dakota was recognized.

They have four Chapters, with 150 members, and 12 exalted during the year.

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported as follows :—

"Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest's address relating to the evil of gambling, do most heartily endorse and approve the high moral position taken by our Most Excellent Grand High Priest, in the edict issued by him in selection thereto; and we do hereby recommend that this Grand Body adopt and affirm the said edict as the cardinal principles of this Grand Chapter."

The following was also adopted :—

"*Resolved*, That the traffic in intoxicating liquors is demoralizing in its tendency, and is a Masonic offence; and, any Companion Royal Arch Mason engaged in such occupation is liable to discipline."

This new Grand Chapter starts out quite bravely with a good report on Correspondence by the Grand Secretary. We are

glad to notice that he is against the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction, and is opposed to the absurd rule forbidding officers to resign.

M. E. Comp. Andrew McCalley, (Walla Walla,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. T. M. Reed, (Olympia,) G. S.

WISCONSIN.

The 36th Convocation was held at Milwaukee, February 16, 1886.

M. E. Comp. Edwin J. Farr, G. H. P.

No question of importance was referred to him during the year. He attributes this gratifying circumstance to the fact that the officers of the several Chapters have consulted their constitution more than they have the Grand High Priest. He advises the Companions to keep on doing so, as the constitution is much the best authority.

One new Chapter was formed.

We copy the conclusion of the report of the Trustees of the Grand Chapter, which contains food for reflection :—

“As this is triennial year, the expenses of representation to Gen. Grand Chapter need providing for. Heretofore, when anything has been allowed, the sum of \$75 or \$100 has been allowed for each one of the four ranking officers, or his proxy, who attended same. Your trustees are of the opinion that as the representative present is entitled to cast the vote of the entire delegation on questions before the General Grand Body, as well as for election of officers, that, in the present condition of our finances, the sum of \$100 is sufficient to appropriate for expenses for that purpose. The trustees don't think any representative should be allowed anything for his time or services, the honor, being in their estimation, an ample equivalent for that item.

Item.—Since writing the above the Trustees of the Grand Lodge have changed the apportionment of office expenses, charging \$34.02 more to this Grand Body, which will leave the balance \$329.62; deducting \$100 for general Grand Chapter expenses, leaves the sum of \$229.62 only for contingencies. So that the current revenue of the year 1885 was a trifle more than sufficient to carry this Grand Chapter to the close of 1886.

At the recommendation of the trustees the Grand Chapter made the *per capita* dues 75 cents in order to extinguish a deficit in the cash and revenue, owing to a default of a previous secretary.

We are of the opinion that until otherwise ordered the *per capita* dues be fixed at sixty (60) cents, which, if the average amount of work is done, will a little more than meet current annual expense, extraordinaries excepted. The trustees think we should have a small ‘shot in the locker,’ but are opposed to an accumulation of cash to invite extravagance, or to tax the inventive genius of the Grand Body to make a profitable disposition of.”

An amendment to the constitution, limiting the officers of the Grand Chapter to a single term of office. was negatived

The Committee on Jurisprudence were

“Of the opinion that the action of a Chapter in electing a Companion to membership constitutes such Companion a member thereof, and that the signing of the by-laws is not necessary to membership. The action of said Chapter in dropping a member from the rolls for want of such signature is illegal and void.”

The *Per Captia* Tax was reduced from seventy-five cents to sixty cents.

Canada for 1885 appears in the report on Correspondence by Comp. Wm. C. Swain.

M. E. Comp. S. H. Alban, (Wausau,) G. H. P.

R. E. Comp. John W. Laffin, (Milwaukee,) G. S.

CONCLUSION.

List of the Grand Chapters whose proceedings are noticed in the above report :—

Alabama.....	1885	Nebraska..	1885
Arkansas.....	1885	Nevada.....	1884-5
Colorado	1885	New Hampshire.....	1885
Dakota.....	1885	New Jersey.....	1885-6
Delaware.....	1885-6	New York.....	1886
District of Columbia.	1885	North Carolina.....	1885
Georgia.....	1885	Nova Scotia.....	1884-5
Illinois.....	1885	Ohio.....	1885
Indiana.....	1885	Oregon	1885
Iowa.....	1885	Pennsylvania.....	1885
Kansas.....	1885-6	Quebec.....	1886
Kentucky.....	1885	Rhode Island.....	1885
Louisiana.....	1886	Scotland.....	1885-6
Maine.....	1885	South Carolina.....	1885-6
Maryland.....	1885	Tennessee.....	1886
Massachusetts.....	1885	Virginia.....	1885
Michigan.....	1886	Washington.....	1885
Missouri	1885	Wisconsin.....	1886

Those not received are : California, 1886 ; Connecticut, 1886 ; Florida, 1886 ; Minnesota, 1885 ; Mississippi, 1885 ; and Texas, 1885. At the date of this report, the Grand Chapter of Vermont has not yet met for 1886 and West Virginia do not publish their proceedings till next year.

We have finished our task for this time, our sojourn amongst the wits, scientists and litterateurs has been most pleasant. It is very gratifying to see so many able minds engaged in the

good work. There must be something peculiarly attractive in the Masonic institution. The best men of all nations have been Freemasons, and have found the fraternity worthy of their self-devotion, worthy of study and worthy of self-sacrifice. They have endeavored to further its interests and to uphold its principles. So should every Brother and Companion, by the rectitude of his life and actions bring added lustre to the society to which he is proud to belong. Especially should the Masonic tie, added to the recognized charms of friendship, induce us to cultivate the fraternal sentiment and show to the world that our claim to be Brothers is no empty profession, but a sound and wholesome truth.

But not to moralize too much, or to try to prove what is acknowledged by all, we will wind up with a story, (*with a practical application.*)

“Once on a time an emperor, a wise man
No matter where, in China or Japan,
Decreed that whosoever should offend
Against the well-known duties of a friend,
Convicted once, should ever after wear
But half a coat, and show his bosom bare.
The punishment importing this, no doubt,
That all was naught within, and all found out.

O, happy Canada ! we have not to fear
Such hard and arbitrary measure here ;
Else, could a law, like that which I relate
Once have the sanction of our rules of state ;
Some few, that I have known in days of old,
Would run most dreadful risk of catching cold ;
While you, my friend, whatever wind should blow,
Might traverse Ontario safely to and fro,
An honest man, close-buttoned to the chin,
Broad-cloth without, and warm heart within.”

All which is fraternally submitted.

HENRY ROBERTSON,
Chairman.

COLLINGWOOD, Ontario, Canada,
June 1st, 1886.

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